



Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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EDUCATIONAL NUMBER.

THE annual Educational Number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST will be published on Saturday, September 7. It is a number which has a larger circulation than usual; firms who have goods to sell to students, to schools of chemistry, pharmacy, and medicine, to hospitals and teachers, or to the trade generally, should see that their advertisements are in the number. Instructions should be sent to the publisher as soon as possible, who will supply tariff on application. The number is referred to, and is in demand for educational purposes, during a whole year, which is an additional reason for advertising in it.

Summary.

VARIOUS KINDS of photographic novelties are dealt with on p. 343.

THE FRENCH METHOD of fostering foreign trade is mentioned on p. 335.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY is only in the experimental stage, as yet (p. 349).

SOME POINTS from the last report of the Inspectors of Explosives are given on p. 347.

THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS of the difficulty in obtaining apprentices are dealt with on p. 346.

OUR CAPE TOWN CORRESPONDENT tells us by cable of the progress of the royal tour (p. 336).

THE DANYSZ RAT-BACILLUS, as a means of ridding warehouses of rats, is not effectual (p. 351).

VERSATILE "XRAYSER" has some remarks about French pharmaceutical advertising on p. 345.

THE CONDITIONS under which trade is carried on in South Africa are becoming irksome (p. 336).

THE OHIO FOOD COMMISSION has been distinguishing itself again, but has been defeated (p. 337).

OUR TOWN TRAVELLER has been to Cheltenham and picked up some pharmaceutical information (p. 343).

TWO CASES in which coroners make objections to chemists prescribing are reported on pp. 332 and 333.

THE PATENT LAWS are to be further amended before very long, said the President of the Board of Trade (p. 339).

THE FIRST MEETING of the Galen Glee-club was held recently, when the roundelay on p. 351 was rendered.

A NEW PHARMACY LAW came into operation in California last month; the chief points of the law are detailed on p. 339.

PARLIAMENT IS PROROGUED till November 5. The past session has not seen much legislation of direct pharmaceutical interest (p. 339).

DR. DHINGIA is of opinion that the Hankin method of disinfecting wells does not cause a diminution in the number of cholera-vibrios (p. 350).

DR. PAUL GARNAUT, a Paris physican, intends being inoculated with bovine tuberculosis to prove the truth or otherwise of Dr. Koch's theory (p. 335).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL are doing their best to suppress the lachnanthes cure for consumption, according to Colonel W. Le Poer Trench (p. 350).

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE has fixed the standards for milk under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1900. The wording of the regulations is given on p. 350.

THE RESTRICTIONS on importation and sale of proprietary medicines in Austria are not likely to meet the approval of British and American proprietors (p. 348).

IT is not difficult to know the actual position of pharmacy at the beginning of the century, says a medical critic, who has read Mr. Druce's Dublin address (p. 349).

EVENING TECHNICAL CLASSES, in Professor W. Ramsey's view, give but scrappy scientific education—the time is not long enough for serious investigations (p. 349).

IN A PROSECUTION under the Dentists Act, the defendant pleaded that she employed qualified men and that companies were outside the scope of the Act (p. 352).

A GROCER, who sold a headache-power consisting of acetanilid which made a customer ill, has had to pay damages (p. 352). The medical experts differed as to the proper dose of the drug.

THE SUGGESTION made last week for a census of British pharmacy is not worth the expense, "Xrayser" thinks (p. 345), and a correspondent on p. 357 alleges that the Society is already doing something of the kind.

THE principal feature about our Yokohama correspondent's letter, printed on p. 360, is that Japanese iodine and iodides are very weak, owing to the abundance of raw material. Java quinine, he reports, is becoming an article of regular importation.

FLUCTUATIONS in the markets this week appear more numerous than usual, but business generally in drugs and chemicals is not brisk. Quinine is "sick," the relapse having continued. Opium is very firm. Saffron is dearer, and American peppermint oil is still advancing. Shellac is again higher, and a large speculative business has been done. Cinchona was lower in auction (p. 359).

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. Frank Thomas, chemist, Market Place, Boston, last week entertained all his employés to supper at a local restaurant.

At the Chipping Norton Licensing Sessions on August 21, Mr. H. W. G. Morris, chemist, Chipping Norton and Charlbury, was granted a wine-and-spirit licence for his shop at Charlbury.

An old man who appeared at North London Police Court on August 20 charged with assault was described as a confirmed drinker of methylated spirit. The Magistrates barred him from all spirits, methylated or other, for two months—with hard labour.

Charles Bennett was fined 10*s*. or six weeks' hard labour, at Loughborough on August 15, for throwing 1 lb. of chloride of lime, which he had purchased at the shop of Mr. Wm. Stevenson, chemist and druggist, Shepshed, into a trout-brook, with intent to poison the fish.

At a meeting of the Thanet Board of Guardians it was resolved to supply the drugs, &c., to the workhouse, instead of the medicines being provided by the medical officer. The Clerk was instructed to write to the various chemists in Broadstairs and St. Peter's for tenders.

George Spooner was remanded at the Guildhall on August 19 on a charge of endeavouring to procure charitable contributions by fraud from various firms in Aldersgate Street, E.C. Prisoner was arrested as he was leaving the which had premises of Messrs. Maw, Son & Sons.

Walter Sharpe has been committed to the Staffordshire Assizes on a charge of attempting to murder his wife, his daughter and a lodger named Henry Howarth, by poisoning them. Mr. Jones, the county analyst, said the teapot that had been used contained sixty fatal doses of arsenic.

The man Hayden, charged at Stratford with dishonest trading (see *C. & D.*, August 17, page 296), had already served two terms of penal servitude, and was out on ticket-of-leave. On August 17 the Stratford Magistrates revoked his licence, and he has been sent back to penal servitude.

The Sheffield employés of Boots (Limited) had an outing to Worley on August 15. The weather was fine, and the chief item of amusement was a cricket-match between the married and single members of the firm, the former winning by 26 runs. Tea was afterwards partaken of at the Worley Arms Hotel, a musical *entrée* following.

At Wyke, near Weymouth, on August 15, while several lads were being dressed to take part in a hospital-parade, one, who was covered with wadding, lighted a cigarette, and in doing so set himself on fire. Some of his companions also caught fire, and about ten lads suffering from burns were conveyed to Weymouth Hospital.

In his quarterly report to the Kent County Council, Mr. M. A. Adams, public analyst, states that he has analysed fifty-two samples of drugs. Of these, one each of olive oil, cream of tartar, spirit of nitrous ether, and liniment of camphor was adulterated. The olive oil contained 40 per cent. of petroleum, and the remaining samples were slightly below the pharmacopœial strength.

Two lads, named Geach and Bishop, respectively employed as lozenge-stampers at the factory of Messrs. Meggeson & Co. (Limited), 14 and 15 Miles Lane, E.C., appeared at the Mansion House on August 19 on a charge of breaking and entering the premises of a tea-merchant at 12 and 13 Miles Lane, and stealing 3 lbs. 2 oz. of tea. They were remanded until August 21, and after being lectured by the Alderman were discharged.

The Doctor's Conclusions.

At an inquest held at Canning Town on August 14 on the body of Frederick Christopher Payne, 3 years of age, the

father stated that a friend gave him some pink-coloured pills he had found on the quay, and he himself took two. The following morning one of his children said that "Freddy had been eating some of the pills." The child subsequently became very ill, and was taken to the Seamen's Hospital, where he died. John Hogg said he picked up the pills he gave Payne on a quay in the Albert Docks. There were a number of loose pills in a box, a smaller box full of the same pills, and a bottle of red liquid. He had taken some of the pills without ill effect. There was a paper in the box saying something about the pills, but he was not scholar enough to understand it. Dr. Ross said he found the stomach full of food and a pink-coloured substance. The fact that the child had taken several of those pills—say, six or seven—would have caused death, as they probably contained something of a sufficiently poisonous nature to kill a child. Having tasted one of the pills, witness went on to say that he believed nostrums of that kind contained strychnine, phosphorus, quinine, and some extract. So far as the deceased was concerned, the symptoms were not such as would follow in a case of strychnine-poisoning. He believed that the child had died through taking a poison sufficiently strong to kill a child. The Coroner (Mr. C. E. Hilleary) said the paper found with the pills described them as of great utility to the nervous system, being food to the brain, soothing, and exceedingly strengthening. It appeared that this child took six, whilst the directions said one was a dose for a man. They were manufactured in the United States. In answer to the Coroner, the doctor said he thought no useful purpose would be served by an analysis. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the child died through taking pills of a poisonous nature, but there was not sufficient evidence to show the nature of the poison; and the Coroner remarked that the case would probably be a warning to people who went in for quack medicines.

Some of the witnesses in this case referred to the pills as "pink pills," and certain newspaper reports appeared to convey the impression that Dr. Williams's pink pills were the cause of the fatality. We have ascertained that the pills in question were not "pink pills for pale people," but were an American remedy put up entirely different, in tin boxes, the pills having a deep-red (not pink) coating.

School Laboratories.

The Board of Education have just issued rules as to the buildings for higher elementary schools, in which are the following regulations as to the laboratories:—

1. (a) The laboratory accommodation must be sufficient to provide at one time for the largest class in the school. (b) There should generally be one laboratory for chemistry and one for physics. (c) A laboratory should afford 30 square feet of floor-space for each scholar; the minimum size will therefore be 600 square feet, but it is as a rule desirable that the laboratory should be somewhat larger. If, however, the laboratory accommodates more than twenty-five scholars a second teacher would be required. (d) Laboratories must be fitted with suitable tables, which must be well lighted; they should be properly supplied with gas and water. For chemical laboratories, sinks, cupboards, and the necessary fume-closets must be provided. (e) A small balance-room may be provided if desired. 2. (a) In addition to the classrooms and laboratories it is desirable that a higher elementary school should include at least one lecture-room, which should be fitted with (1) demonstration-table furnished with a gas and water supply and a sink, and (2) a fume-closet. A lecture-room should have an area of about 750 square feet. (b) A small preparation-room, fitted with bench, sink, cupboard, and shelves, and proper supply of gas, should be provided in a convenient position for the lecture-room.

Coroners and Prescribing.

At an inquest held at Stoke Newington on August 14 on the body of a child named Niblett, 3 months old, the mother stated that the child being ailing she had obtained some medicine for it from Mr. Pryor, a chemist, of Broughton Road. The Coroner (Dr. Wynn Westcott): The chemist chose for you? Then he broke the law. It is done daily, and we get used to it, but we ought not to. A chemist pays 100*l*. and gets a licence to sell medicine. A doctor pays 2,000*l*. and has a licence to attend a sick baby, and he is the man to go to. The child got worse and died. Dr. Whitelaw, who made a *post-mortem*, said the cause of death was tubercular meningitis. The child could never have been reared. The cough-mixture had nothing to do with the

death. The jury, in returning a verdict of death from natural causes, thought the chemist should be cautioned. Mr. Pryor was accordingly sent for, but it was found that he had gone for a holiday. The jury then added a rider stating that a registered medical practitioner should have been consulted, and expressing regret that a chemist prescribed for the deceased.

At the Holborn Coroner's Court on the same day the death of a woman named Ann Cole, 68, was inquired into. The evidence showed that deceased had been ill for some time previous to her death, but refused to see a doctor. A friend procured a draught for her from Mr. W. J. Thompson, a chemist. The woman died a few hours after. The Coroner (Mr. Walter Schroder) told Mr. Thompson he had no right to prescribe for anyone; it was his duty only to dispense. It was, said Mr. Schroder, very unwise, to say the least of it, for chemists to prescribe, because if the patient died they could not give a death certificate and trouble resulted. Dr. Thomas Murphy said death was due to syncope from heart and other diseases. The draught prescribed by the chemist was a harmless one.

A. Warning.

The man who some four years ago went about among the wholesale houses representing himself as the son of Mr. John Thompson, of Liverpool, and on the strength of that obtained money, is again busy. During this week he gave a large order at a well-known wholesale house, and so ingratiated himself that he was taken out to luncheon, during which he incidentally mentioned he had lost his purse, &c. The late Mr. Thompson had no family.

Trade Trips.

On August 17 about twenty of the staff of Boots Pure Drug Company, at Manchester, had an afternoon's excursion to Alderley Edge. The places of interest in the neighbourhood, including the ancient cross, church, copper-mines, and the Edge, were visited, and despite the showery weather an enjoyable time was spent. After tea Mr. P. Sparks, the warehouse manager, read an interesting letter he had just received from a former employé, now with the R.A.M.C. in Johannesburg. The remainder of the evening was spent in rambling round the village.

On August 17 the annual excursion of Messrs. Potter & Clarke's employés took place, the party leaving by the 8 o'clock train for Southend. The diversified attractions of that favourite resort furnished ample enjoyment adapted to each individual taste. The new Kursaal was visited amongst other places, and a substantial repast was served at the Ship Hotel, covers being laid for sixty persons, the largest number that the excursion has included so far. Mr. R. C. Wren presided, and a telegram from Mr. Goddard Clarke, J.P., L.C.C., conveyed best wishes from Councillor Henry Potter and himself, the senior partners; while Mr. H. A. Potter, pharmaceutical chemist, sent greetings from Switzerland. The toast of "The Firm" was proposed in fitting terms by Mr. Joseph Watmore, and gracefully acknowledged by Mr. R. C. Wren. Delightful weather contributed to an enjoyable day.

Birmingham Notes.

The death of the late Chief Constable of Birmingham has recalled the dynamite conspiracy, which was really discovered by a chemist's assistant, who, it was said, did not receive "a penny piece" as reward.

The window-scratching fiend is rampant again. Two large plate-glass frames next to Mr. Arblaster's shop in New Street have been defaced, and a reward is offered to anyone who can bring the offender to justice.

At the triennial cleaning of the iron roofing of New Street Station 60 tons of rust were removed. This was sold to an enterprising chemist at a high figure, for making some liquid preparation much used in our midst, and it actually paid for the removal.

A brother of Mr. C. Birt, of Selly Oak, who was for some time manager of Messrs. Boots' Parade shop, has gone to South Africa to take charge of a chemist's business there. The appointment was secured through Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited).

The Society's prospectus of its School of Pharmacy has been spread broadcast in the city, but the prolonged time of study suggested, increased fees for tuition, and extras with books, together with raised examination-fees, long hours, small profits, and poor pay, do not tend to transmit young pharmacists Bloomsbury Square-wards. Technical schools and private coaches, both of which steal weary hours from the night, are more favoured.

The choice of the sons of pharmacists in our district as regards avocation is interesting. Rarely do they follow the profession of their fathers, and the following is a list of occupations selected, taken indiscriminately:—Bankers and other clerkships, farmer, schoolmaster, college principal, clergyman, organist, medico, dentist, engineer, electrician, photographer, enlarger of prints, manufacturer of ginger-beer, soda-water manufacturer, syphon-repairer, traveller for wholesale drug-firm, brewer, and telegraphist.

Local Tenders Off.

The Boston Town Council has accepted the tender of Messrs. Fletcher Brothers, of Grimsby, for the supply of disinfectant-powder at 6s. 9d. per cwt., and disinfectant-fluid at 1s. 3d. per gal. This was the lowest of three tenders sent in, the highest figures being 8s. and 2s. 6d., respectively. Complaint was made at the order going out of the town; but an amendment that the contract should only be given to a Boston trader was defeated, there being but four votes for and seven against.

Shop Improvements.

Mr. E. Ryley, chemist and druggist, 23 Lowgate, Hull, is making alterations and improvements in his pharmacy, to increase the accommodation and greatly improve the frontage.

Mr. M. H. Stiles, pharmaceutical chemist, 2 French Gate, Doncaster, is carrying out extensive alterations to the frontage and interior of his pharmacy, which, when completed, will greatly improve its appearance.

The executors of the late Mr. W. Slack, chemist and druggist, 53 St. Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster, have had an American soda-water fountain fitted up in the pharmacy by Messrs. N. Stiles & Son, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.

Mr. H. Allison, chemist and druggist, High Street, Lincoln, has removed to larger premises next door to his old shop. A new front has been put in, and the shop has been entirely refitted by Messrs. Ayrton & Saunders, of Liverpool.

A. Chemist's Death.

At Camberwell, on August 20, an inquiry was held into the circumstances of the death of Waddelow Chambers Harris (56) chemist and druggist, lately living at 785 Old Kent Road, S.E. The evidence of a son of deceased was to the effect that Mr. Harris suffered much pain from a bad leg, to alleviate which he had been in the habit of taking small quantities of laudanum. He was not being medically attended for his leg; he doctored it himself. He would have had a doctor if he had had the money to spare but he had a large family, and his wages were not high. Another son deposed to finding deceased in a dazed state, and found he had taken 1 oz. of laudanum. He was given an emetic and conveyed to the infirmary, where he died the same night. Dr. A. J. Bennett said the cause of death was syncope from a weak heart, accelerated by opium-poisoning.

The Attraction of Pharmacy.

A bullock was being driven along Cornhill, Melton Mowbray, on August 13, when it suddenly walked into the shop of Boots (Limited). After sauntering leisurely up to the counter, it turned round and quietly retreated, causing no damage whatever.

The other day a bull was being driven along Dudley Road, Birmingham, when it made a rush for the window of the shop owned by Mr. J. Freeman, chemist and druggist, at the corner of Dudley Road and City Road. The bull had not the best of the encounter, however, for although he smashed the plate-glass, the jagged pieces cut deep into his sides. With a little forcible persuasion he was piloted into the street again.

Cricket.

Drug-trade Championship.—Burgoyne's C.C. played City Mills C.C. at St. Quintin's Park on August 17. Result: Burgoyne's, 53; City Mills, 47. Ryley (7 for 20) and Selwood (3 for 26) bowled well. Boielle was top scorer (17) for Burgoyne's. Rule took 7 wickets for City Mills, Franks being top scorer (12).

The Wellcome C.C. v. Dakin Brothers C.C.—The Drug-league match played at Bowes Park on August 17 resulted in a win for the Wellcome Club. The scores were: Wellcome C.C., 96; Dakin Brothers C.C., 53. For the winners Purton made 18, Knight 22, and Thompson 14; while Bailey made 14 and Burling 11 for the losers. Purton bowled 6 for 15.

The Week's Poisonings.

The suicidal epidemic continues, twenty fatalities from poisoning being recorded since our last report. Of these, five were caused by unscheduled poisons, namely, ammonia in three cases, sulphuric acid, and hydrochloric acid. In one of the ammonia cases the poison was taken by an old man at Speldhurst in the form of smelling-salts. The dose he took produced pneumonia, thus accelerating death. Amongst the scheduled poisons we find belladonna taken by a Boston doctor's wife, oxalic acid in two cases, laudanum was taken by five people with fatal results, and carbolic acid in seven instances. In one case at Manchester, a baby six months old was given a bottle with carbolic acid in it to play with by an elder child, and the baby drank some and died. At an inquest held by Dr. F. J. Waldo at St. Bartholomew's Hospital on the death of a young woman, the evidence showed that deceased drank some carbolic acid which was kept in a kaolo-bottle. The Coroner animadverted strongly on the careless storage and ready distribution of that dangerous poison, and told the jury of the case—reported in the *C. & D.*, August 10 (page 262)—which he investigated, where it was stated that a woman obtained for the asking a bottle full of carbolic acid from a cart belonging to the Southwark Borough Council. A juror asserted that it ought to be made penal for anyone to keep or send out carbolic acid in any other than a poison-bottle, distinctive by touch. Dr. Albert Gillespie, house-surgeon at St. Bartholomew's, said the number of cases of carbolic-poisoning admitted to the hospital was remarkable, and in the majority of the cases the poison was taken by misadventure. Greater care ought to be exercised in the sale and distribution of such a dangerous poison.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

The Sligo Libel-case.

At the meeting of the Sligo Board of Guardians on August 17, the Chairman (Mr. P. N. White) made a full apology, and proposed a resolution, which was adopted unanimously, to reinstate Mr. Fenton (the plaintiff in the case) as solicitor to the Board.

Irish Drugs.

At the Ballymoney (co. Antrim) Board of Guardians on August 16, a letter was read from the Local Government Board asking that a copy of the analyst's report on samples of drugs from the Castlequarter Dispensary should be sent to the medicine-contractor, and, further, that the contractor should be asked to replace the tincture of nux vomica, which was decidedly under the B.P. standard.

Carters Want Prompt Payment.

At the last meeting of the Mohill (co. Leitrim) Board of Guardians a letter was read from Dr. Pentland to the effect that medicines he had ordered from Mr. White, contractor, of Sligo, in June last had not yet reached the dispensary. He believed they were at Dromod Station; but he wrote to Mr. White about them several times, and the only reply he could get was that he should get his own carrier to take

them to the dispensary, and he (Mr. White) would pay him. The carters about Dromod refused to do the work, as they said that Mr. White would not pay them until three or four months after the work was done. The Chairman said that he was sure Mr. White would pay the carters if they did the work.

Dispenser's Salary.

The Local Government Board have written to the Guardians of the South Dublin Union declining to sanction the increase of 15% a year which the Guardians proposed to give to Mr. Hanrahan, dispenser in the Castle Street Dispensary. The Guardians have referred the matter to the Finance Committee.

An Attempt at Suicide.

A motiveless case of strychnine-poisoning occurred at Belturbet on August 10. Whilst the body was awaiting the inquest a young man named White, who lived in the same house, in a pique because his mother would not give him money, threatened to poison himself. He went to Cole's Medical Hall for strychnine, saying it was to poison rats with, but the assistant's suspicions being aroused he gave White a few grains of Epsom salts and informed the police. The police found White rolling on the ground under the impression that he was poisoned, and arrested him for attempted suicide.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Mr. E. H. Turnbull, chemist and druggist, late of Leith, has purchased a business at Amble, Northumberland.

The Edinburgh Bon Marché (Limited), having evidently found drugs and drapery incompatible, have abandoned their drug department, and sold the stock to one of the drug companies in the city.

Fire.

On August 16 a quantity of methylated spirit exploded and set fire to the premises of Messrs. R. C. Hunter & Co., drysalers and oilmen, 10 Tanfield, Edinburgh, but the flames were quickly extinguished.

Complimentary Dinner.

Mr. Andrew F. McAdam, who for the last sixteen years has been the Irish representative of Messrs. George Walker & Son, wholesale druggists, Glasgow, is retiring, and was entertained by the firm at a complimentary dinner on August 16, at the Athenæum Club. The Honourable the Lord Provost of Glasgow presided.

After dinner, Lord Provost Chisholm, in proposing the health of Mr. McAdam, said he had known Mr. McAdam for many years, and those who knew their guest best loved him most. As a commercial Mr. McAdam possessed that invaluable characteristic—the power of inspiring confidence among those with whom he did business. Mr. McAdam had won and maintained the confidence of both employers and customers, and all wished him long life, health, prosperity, and every domestic blessing. (Applause.)

Mr. McAdam suitably replied.

Later on in the evening Mr. Crawford, on behalf of the directors, presented Mr. McAdam with a handsome epergne, suitably inscribed.

In returning thanks, Mr. McAdam said the first thing that occurred to him were the words of the "sweet singer of Israel"—"Had I a thousand tongues." It did not require a gift to keep him in remembrance of them; but he thanked them from the bottom of his heart. When he looked upon their gift in his island home he would think of the country where better people were not to be found on all God's broad earth. (Applause.)

Deaths of well-known Doctors.

Dr. James William Miller, of Dundee, who died on August 7, was very well known to the pharmacists in Forfarshire. He was one of Dundee's leading physicians, and had

been in practice in that city since 1853, having succeeded his uncle, Dr. Munro. Dr. Miller was born in London in 1836, but went to Leslie, Fife, with his parents two years later. He was educated at the parish school there, afterwards attending Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.D. in 1857.

The death of Dr. William Husband, which took place on August 20, at Edinburgh, has removed from the ranks of the medical profession in Edinburgh one of its oldest and most respected members. Dr. Husband's name is best known in connection with public vaccination, he being the first to introduce the method of preserving vaccine-lymph in capillary tubes. For many years he held the appointment of Superintendent of the Central Vaccine Institution for Scotland under the Board of Supervision and Local Government Board, one of the most important functions of which was the supplying of vaccine-lymph to public vaccinators.

A Students' Ramble.

On August 19 the students of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, accompanied by the Principal (Mr. Thos. S. Barrie), had a hotanical ramble in the Cathcart district. A large number of specimens were collected, and plants comprising all the orders named in the Minor syllabus were found in flower. Among the curios noticed were the galls produced on the stems and leaves of a certain species of salix, and also the bushy galls of the hramble; the samaras of the elm, ash, and maple; the different forms of pappus in composite flowers, and dandelion, welted thistle, and nipplewort; the latex-bearers taraxacum and euphorbia; and the tubercular roots of various trifoliums and vetches.

A Literary Ad.

Mr. Thomas Robinson, chemist and druggist, 23 West Nile Street, Glasgow, does not follow the beaten track in his advertising. The following appears in one of the local papers:—

"ANNUS MIRABILIS GLASGOVIENSIS, 1901."

Thanks to the prescient alertness of her municipal and commercial directors, Glasgow has practically appropriated the first year of the twentieth century to demonstrate to the world at large—by her triumphantly successful Exhibition and the equally epoch-making ninth Jubilee of her University—her foremost position in the industrial and scientific arts. As evidence of her "up to dateness," *pharmaceutically* nothing more convincing could be adduced than the *actually world-wide* reputation and unassailable excellence of the undernamed

SUMMER DELIGHTS.

Then follow details of some of Mr. Robinson's more notable specialities.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

INOCULATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.—A Paris physician of some standing, Dr. Paul Garnault, formerly head of the Laboratory of Comparative Anatomy at Bordeaux, has written to Dr. Koch, offering himself as a subject for inoculation with bovine tuberculosis in the following terms:—

I offer myself in full knowledge of what I am doing. I am inclined to think you are in error, and am convinced that I shall be inoculated. My age is 41 years, and I weigh 100 kilos. I stand 1 mètre 81 centimètres in height. My health is perfect—in fact, you can submit me to preliminary inoculations of tuberculine. I am without children. In battles men of inferior mental calibre offer themselves by thousands to an inevitable death. Although I differ from you in opinion, and consider that I shall in all probability be inoculated, I think that, on the battlefield of social life, an intelligent being may undertake what so many others do on real battlefields. I hold myself at your disposal, either at Paris or Berlin, and leave you to name the conditions.

This offer has created a good deal of interest in Paris, and especially in scientific circles. Dr. Garnault seeks in this way to test Dr. Koch's theory laid down at the Congress on Tuberculosis in London last month that, contrary to the prevailing theory, tuberculosis cannot be transmitted to man from an ox or cow by consuming meat or milk. Dr.

Garnault expresses the highest possible esteem for Koch's scientific attainments, but adds that his theory has little value until it has been practically tested. The French doctor is good enough to promise not to hear his German colleague any grudge if the experiment turns out badly. If Dr. Koch refuses the offer Dr. Garnault has announced that he will get some other doctor to inoculate him or do it himself. "Whatever happens," he says, "with or without Dr. Koch, I am going to see this experiment through."

FOSTERING THE EXPORT-TRADE.—The French National Office for Foreign Trade, which has now been in existence rather more than three years, appears to be making serious efforts to assist French firms with their trade abroad. Amongst the methods adopted by the office to further this end is the issue of a series of "Industrial and Commercial Monographs," which contain information concerning special industries or branches of trade, and, in theory at least, they should be of considerable use and value. The latest of these will bear the title, "Le Commerce Français de la parfumerie à l'Étranger," and will be devoted exclusively to giving information likely to assist French manufacturers of perfumery in developing their export-trade. The following details will be given for their benefit:—

1. The quantities of the following classes of perfumery imported into the leading foreign cities: (a) Toilet-soaps. (b) Articles of perfumery, such as cosmetics, dentifrices, toilet-waters, toilet-powders, hair washes and dyes.
2. Amount of imports: (a) Fine perfumery. (b) Cheap perfumery.
3. Nature of manufacture of perfumery and soaps in each country.
4. Style of putting up goods, and usual contents of bottles and boxes.
5. Cost of carriage, Customs dues, methods of payment.
6. Customs and habits followed in purchasing.
7. Name and addresses of the principal agents in each country susceptible of representing French perfumery houses.
8. List of the most important perfumery shops, large bazaars, drapers, hairdressers, and all other retailers selling perfumery articles, such as pharmacists, druggists, grocers, &c., to whom manufacturers can address their offers either through the post or by travellers.

Such publications as the one above-mentioned appear to be the method employed by the National Office of emulating foreign trade journals such as THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, the value of which has long been officially recognised in France.

A MEDICO-PHARMACEUTICAL UNION.—An interesting case was heard at Lille last week, and judgment has just been given. There exists in the North of France a syndicate of doctors and pharmacists known as the "Medico-pharmaceutical Union," for the protection of their mutual interests. The local authorities came to the conclusion that it exists on an illegal basis, on the ground that the law which regulates syndicates prohibits the members of one profession or calling from combining with those of another, and consequently prosecuted the committee of the Union. For the prosecution it was contended that pharmacists are engaged in active business, and thus, by virtue of the law passed in March, 1834, have the right to form themselves into syndicates; whereas the profession of a doctor is distinct by itself, and has no industrial or commercial element. The defence was that the syndicate complied with the conditions of the law inasmuch as there is a direct connection between medicine and pharmacy, and that they have professional interests in common. The doctor who prescribes a remedy and the pharmacist who dispenses it combine to produce a determined product. The pharmacist, as an indispensable auxiliary of the doctor, plays his rôle in the art of healing, and, in fact, to so great an extent that the practice of medicine, as such, could not exist without the aid of pharmacy. The Union further contended that not only do doctors and pharmacists co-operate in the formation of numerous public organisations, such as committees of hygiene, hut, also, the instruction to students destined for either profession is given in colleges hearing officially the name of Faculty or School of Medicine and Pharmacy, where instruction in the latter science is only given by doctors of medicine, which shows the great amount of common knowledge necessary to both. In the end judgment was given in favour of the Medico-pharmaceutical Union.

South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

THE ROYAL TOUR.

(By Cable.)

Cape Town, August 21, 8 P.M.

The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall sailed from Durban on August 15, the *Ophir* arriving at Simonstown on the morning of August 18. All the Durban pharmacies were decorated and closed from 10 till 5. At the Mayor's luncheon to the colonial delegates for the royal reception Councillors G. A. Champion and E. G. Challinor were present. The speeches at the luncheon were enthusiastically cheered, and much excitement prevailed. All the Cape pharmacies from Simonstown to Capetown are bedecked with bunting and illuminated at night. The displays made by Messrs. Lennon (Limited), Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., and Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co. are amongst the finest in the city.

MR. CHAS. CATTELL has been granted a licence to practise as a chemist and druggist in Natal.

A TRADE-MARK.—The Californian Fig-syrup Company give notice in the Cape Government *Gazette* of their intention to apply to be registered as the proprietors of the trade-mark "Califig" in respect of chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy.

PHARMACY IN DAR-ES-SALAAM.—With reference to the article on "Pharmacy in East Africa," which appeared in our issue of August 10, page 265, Messrs. Bretschneider & Hasche, of Hamburg, inform us that they are the owners of the only pharmacy concession in Dar-es-Salaam besides that run by the Government.

A SMALL FIRE.—An outbreak of fire occurred on the premises of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co., Cape Town, on July 23, but was soon got under control. It originated from the over-heating of some machinery running in the milling-room. The damage done by both fire and water is small, and will in no way interfere with the conduct of business.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Mr. John Colebank, chemist and druggist, who has been a refugee from Johannesburg for the last eighteen months, has commenced business at Tarkastad, Cape Colony.—A licence has been issued authorising James Ford, chemist and druggist, Great Britain, 1894, to practise in Cape Colony as a chemist and druggist.

NATAL CUSTOMS.—The statement of the Collector of Customs for Port Natal shows that goods of the value of 4,147,280*l.* were brought into Natal during the first six months of 1901, against imports valued at 2,712,899*l.* for the corresponding period of 1900. The exports for the same period in 1901 were valued at 1,517,980*l.*, against 371,847*l.* in 1900. The Customs revenue shows an increase of 42,241*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS now prevailing in South Africa and especially in Cape Colony, has reached a point when the South African druggists are beginning to ask quite seriously how much longer the present conditions of things will be allowed to continue. In the opinion of some people, the whole country is in a worse state, from a trade point of view, than it was nine months ago. While the city of Cape Town itself is not actually under martial law, the cordon is very tight around it, and though it is a comparatively easy matter to get into Cape Town, it is by no means an easy task to get out again, either by sea or land. The drug-trade of South Africa is loyal almost to a man, and quite willing to suffer almost any restrictions to end the war in a way satisfactory to all English-speaking people, but it is beginning to think it is entitled to receive more consideration at the hands of the military authorities than is at present the case.

MAIL SERVICE TO NATAL.—The decision of the Union Castle Company to discontinue the mail service of steamers to Natal has caused great indignation amongst the merchants and public generally. The great discomfort of transhipment

at Port Elizabeth which passengers to England have to undergo has already been referred to. At the Chamber of Commerce on July 26, when there was an unusually large attendance, the following resolution was carried *nem. con.*:—

That the proposals made to Government by the U.C.C. should not be entertained on account of the large subsidy asked for, and also on account of the proposal not containing a definite undertaking as to how the suggested service between Cape Town and Natal would be carried out.

The following resolutions were also carried:—

1. That, in the opinion of this Chamber, the Government should be asked to call for tenders in England from all lines trading to Natal, and any others that might entertain the idea, for a weekly service to and from Cape Town and Cape ports by fast steamers carrying the mails, and Cape and Natal produce. Such steamers to be fitted with good and modern accommodation for a considerable number of passengers, and that any such tenders should state the maximum rates of freight for cargo and passenger fares.

2. That the Government, should they agree to the above, be asked to communicate at once with the Cape Government asking for preferential treatment for the landing of cargo ex such steamers, and also suggesting to the Cape Government that, in view of the great facilities offered by the steamers to the export of Cape produce to Natal, that Government be asked to contribute a fair share of any subsidy that the Natal Government may be asked to pay to the steamers undertaking the service.

Personalities.

MR. SAMUEL ROBERTS, of May, Roberts & Co., Clerkenwell Road, E.C., is a candidate for a vacancy on the Finsbury Borough Council, and, though other aspirants are mentioned, the popular feeling is in favour of the genial druggists' sundriesman.

MR. GEORGE HEATHCOTE, who for the past thirteen years has been in business as a chemist at Folkingham, has, on leaving the town, been presented by the residents with a gold albert and appendages and a purse of gold. The presentations were made to Mr. Heathcote at a dinner given at the Greyhound Hotel.

WE had a call this week from Mr. George McDiarmid, of Edinburgh, who went to South Africa as an Army-com-pounder in 1899. He arrived in England on August 15, having served the Army twenty months altogether, procuring his discharge at Aldershot last Tuesday. Mr. McDiarmid is looking well, notwithstanding a touch of malaria which confined him to hospital for some time. One of his last experiences was when compounder on a vessel conveying Boer prisoners to India, and the only surgeon on board was taken ill with brain-fever. Mr. McDiarmid, for five or six days, had to take entire charge of the sick on board, including the medical officer.

MR. J. GRIFFITH, chemist and druggist, Farnham, has retired from business under the advice of his medical attendant. A year ago his health was so bad that he went to St. Moritz, Switzerland, where he remained the winter, greatly benefiting therefrom. He returned to Farnham early in the year, but finding the neighbourhood unsuited to his ailment has sold his business. Mr. Griffith went to Farnham in 1874, purchasing the business of Messrs. Randall & Co., then carried on at 30 The Borough, Farnham. Shortly afterwards he removed it to 24, and in 1890 entirely rebuilt the premises. He carries with him into his retirement the best wishes of a large circle of friends.

GET YOUR APPRENTICE, that is or is to be, to read the "Guide to Preliminary Examinations," published by the C. & D. It deals with Latin, Arithmetic, English, Algebra, Euclid, French, and German, also with the London Matric. Examinations of the College of Preceptors, the Educational Institute of Scotland, and the Oxford and Cambridge Locals—recognised by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. The book tells how to prepare for the examinations, the best books to get, when the examinations are held, and how to enter for them. Specimens of the examination-papers are given and worked out. The book is invaluable to all who are entering the drug-trade. Price 2*s.* 6*d.*; by post, 2*s.* 9*d.*

American Notes.

PLASMON IN U.S.A.—Mr. H. E. Wright, who until lately had been manager of International Plasmon (Limited), has been appointed to the management of the American Plasmon Syndicate (Limited) in the United States, with offices at 1361 Broadway, New York.

TO PRESERVE THE COLOUR OF PRESSED FLOWERS.—The director of the New York Botanical Garden says that if, after the flowers have been under pressure for a day or two, they be laid in paper and exposed to the sun until completely dried, the colour will be preserved better than by any other process.

DEUTSCHE APOTHEKE VEREIN.—The New York Deutsche Apotheke Verein is making preparations to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in October. The celebration which is to be held at Terrace Gardens, will extend over two days, and is to combine the features of a Foresters' fête, a schutzenfest, and a Missouri Pharmaceutical Association meeting. The *pièce de résistance* will be beer.

ARMOUR'S ACID.—Messrs. Armour & Co., of Chicago and London, are erecting a large plant for the production of chemical-fertilisers, at Atlanta, Ga., at a cost of about \$500,000. The buildings when finished will comprise a sulphuric acid plant, capable of producing 60 tons of acid per day, and a plant for manipulating the materials used in the manufacture of commercial fertilisers.

MOSQUITO-PREVENTIVES are in great demand in New York. Camphor, citronella, pennyroyal, wormwood, eucalyptus, and menthol are the articles in most demand. The effect of these is only temporary, however. The best preparation to use at nights or when in the woods is castor oil. It is objectionable, but does the work. It may be diluted with a little alcohol and perfumed if desired, but the solution must contain at least 50 per cent. of oil. Next to this vaseline and oil of cajuput are most effective.

COSMOPOLITAN PHARMACY.—A drug-store in Boston has a card conspicuously displayed telling customers that German, Gaelic, Polish, and English are spoken. As the store is in a rather cosmopolitan district, the need of understanding these languages is often felt. At another pharmacy in Boston eleven languages are spoken, including English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Polish, Hebrew and Yiddish, Greek, and a Slavonic tongue. Latin is, of course, understood, and a small number of Chinese words and phrases have been gradually picked up—just enough to greet any Chinaman cordially in his own tongue whenever he enters.

THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY'S MEETING.—The American Chemical Society will hold its twenty-fourth general meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in Denver, Colo., on August 26 and 27. The same arrangement which has heretofore obtained will govern the meetings of these two Associations. The headquarters of the Association will be at the Brown Palace Hotel, where reduced rates have been secured for members. Various visits and excursions will be arranged by the local committee, and these will probably include visits to the smelting and reduction works in the vicinity of Denver.

PHARMACY IN THE BACKGROUND.—Several of the drug-stores in Philadelphia appear to find the sale of candies a paying side-line. One "pharmacy" in particular has the whole front space of the store given up to a soda-fountain and counters covered with candies, with six or eight young ladies in attendance. Behind these counters are a number of little tables, where customers are served with soda-water drinks. In the very back part of the store are a few shelves containing the stock-bottles familiarly met with in a drug-shop, while the prescription-department is relegated to a sort of gallery (reached by steps), where also the patents and drugs are kept.

THE ST. JACOBS OIL BUSINESS.—An order has been signed in the Circuit Court, Baltimore, ratifying the substitution of Mr. W. E. Geddes in place of Mr. R. J. Drinkwater as the purchaser of the business of the Charles A. Vogeler Company (*C. & D.*, August 17, page 319), and ratifying the contract made by Mr. Geddes with Messrs. Henry S. Dulaney, John B.

Ramsay, and Lawrence B. Kemp, the trustees. The sale of the assets to Mr. Drinkwater was reported in the *C. & D.* of March 9 (page 386), but he declined to carry out the contract of sale, and Mr. Geddes agreed to take his place on the same terms. The petition of Mr. Geddes, on which the Court's order was based, stated that he has paid the trustees a deposit of 5,000*l.* and given promissory-notes for the balance of the purchase-price.

THE WAR ON MOSQUITOS.—Attempts are being made in many sections of the United States to rid certain areas of mosquitos. Most of these attempts have been failures, owing to the difficulty of securing the co-operation of all the residents. The insects are particularly numerous and virulent this year, owing to the heavy rainfalls during the past two months. The New York sanitary authorities are at present making an organised effort to rid a section of about five square miles on Staten Island of the very numerous insects which make life a burden thereon. This attempt seems likely to succeed, as the authorities have power to compel householders to co-operate. Those who decline to take part in these oily wars complain that the smell of the oil is worse than the plague of mosquitos.

ELECTRIC-LIGHTING DANGERS.—A drug-store proprietor in Baltimore, Mr. Frank Waters, was found dead in his shop with his thumb and index-finger burned to the bone and a burn about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep on the back of his hand. An ordinary incandescent lamp, with about 2 inches of the insulating material burned off the wire where it entered the bulb, was hanging above the prescription-counter, to the right of which was an iron sink. It is conjectured that when Mr. Waters went to turn off the light before closing for the night one hand came in contact with the naked wire, which had been heavily charged with a diverted current, while the other hand touched the sink, thus completing the circuit. A terrific thunderstorm had passed over the city on the previous day, and it is believed that the feed-wires became crossed, and that the powerful charge of electricity turned into the incandescent circuit was too great to be rendered harmless by the converter.

FOR HAY-FEVER.—Dr. Holbrook Curtis, one of the leading nose and throat specialists in New York city, has conducted a long research on a new method of treating hay-fever patients. On the supposition that the pollen of flowers is the exciting cause of the disease, Dr. Curtis follows out the old law "*similia similibus curantur*," and administers a solution or infusion of the plant which causes the attack. Not only, says the doctor, may the attack be prevented, but even after the attack has begun it may be modified and controlled by what he terms the immunisation treatment. The chief offender among plants is the ragweed *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*, and the tincture or fluid extract of this plant is most effective in preventing what Dr. Curtis calls rhinitis vasomotoria periodica or corosthina ambrosiæ. The dose of the tincture is 10 drops in water three times daily for two weeks prior to the usual date of seizure. Tinctures of lily of the valley and golden rod are also of value, as well as infusion of rose for "rose-fever."

THE FOOD AND DRUGS LAW.—A new stage in the long-drawn-out fight between the Sugar Trust and the arbutckles (coffee-packers) has just been reached. The arbutckles put up a cheap ground coffee in packages. This coffee is glazed with white of egg to preserve the aroma, and at the instigation of the Woolson Spice Company, of Toledo—a concern run by the Sugar Trust for the express purpose of putting the arbutckles out of business—the Ohio Food Commissioner is prosecuting retailers for selling this glazed coffee. The case, when tried, was a veritable battle of giants, the most expert bacteriologists and chemists in the country being summoned. The State held that the glazing was a highly injurious adulteration, and brought up evidence to show that it seemed to attract all the pathogenic bacteria in that section of the country. One expert testified to having found 500 bacteria upon 1 gr. of glazed coffee. A good deal of hard swearing was done by the experts on both sides, but the arbutckles eventually won. This is not the first time that the Ohio Food Commission has allowed itself to be used as a catspaw for the purpose of settling private grievances. The Paskola case is still fresh in mind, as also the statement that Scott's emulsion contained morphine.

Colonial and Foreign News.

QUININE IN COREA.—The importation of quinine into Corea is an item of some importance in the import-trade. During last year 120 cases of 100 1-oz. bottles each, representing a value of about 8,000*l.*, were imported. The business is in the hands of a German firm.

AUSTRALASIAN PATENTS AND TRADE-MARKS—Mr. Reginald W. Barker, patent and trade-mark agent, 56 Ludgate Hill, E.C., has received the following information in reference to the Federal Patents and Trade-Marks Law:—

We have now the positive assurance from the Minister who has charge of this matter that there is no possibility of the Patents and Trade-marks Bill being introduced this Session. The next Parliamentary Session will probably not commence till May, 1902, and if the Bill passes both Houses during that Session it can hardly come into force till 1903; but, looking at the number of important measures already announced to be previously dealt with, we are of opinion that there is but little probability of its being passed until the Session of 1903, and consequently that it will not come into force till 1904.

Meanwhile it will be necessary for inventors and trade-mark owners who desire protection throughout Australasia to make, as heretofore, separate applications in the colonies of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia (now forming the State of the Australian Commonwealth), as well as in New Zealand, which is outside the Federation.

CHEMICAL-PRODUCTS IN MEXICO.—The value of the chemical-products imported into Mexico during 1900 was 525,805*l.*, as against 455,300*l.* in 1899. Paints and varnishes, including aniline dyes and dyewood extracts, show a value of 112,544*l.*, as against 101,016*l.* in 1899. Drugs, patent medicines, &c., were imported to the value of 94,835*l.*, as against 92,303*l.* in 1899. The value of the imports of sulphate of copper and of iron decreased from 79,005*l.* to 55,636*l.* Caustic soda and potash, used largely in the cotton-factories, were valued at 66,665*l.* in 1900.

A GLASS-COMBINE.—Rumours of gigantic combinations in the glass-trade have been floating about for some time. Last week (*C. & D.*, August 17, page 301) we reported that negotiations were pending for a combined American and Belgian trust. A Belgian paper announces this week that Roux, Courcelles, Floreffe, and Oignies's glassworks are to be amalgamated with a capital of 10,000,000*f.* In America the formation of a flint-glass bottle combination with a capital of \$30,000,000 is reported. The latter is to include all the big manufacturers in the country.

PHARMACY LAW IN LAGOS.—In last week's issue (page 301) reference was made to a Pharmacy Ordinance for Lagos. Later information shows that a meeting of the Legislative Council was held on July 18 at Government House, Lagos, when a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance No. 14 of 1900, entitled 'The Sale of Drugs and Poisons Ordinance, 1900,'" was introduced for consideration. His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, K.C.M.G., C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, pointed out that the Ordinance was found to be unworkable, as it provided for examinations to be held in the months of January and July in each year, while it made no provision for exempting from examinations those who were already dispensing drugs, and which was the usual course pursued in the introduction of such a measure in other countries. There were, besides, other minor defects, and he had considered it best to repeal the Ordinance entirely, and have it substituted by another Bill which would be more adequate. On motion, the Bill was read a first time, and the measure having been declared urgent, the Standing rules and orders were suspended to enable the Bill to be passed through all its stages. It was accordingly read a second and third time and passed, a sub-committee being appointed to present the Bill for his Excellency's assent in his Majesty's name. The Bill has created some stir amongst local traders, and "An English Man," writing in the *Lagos Standard*, says in 1891 a Bill not unlike the British Pharmacy Act, 1868, entitled "The Sale of Drugs and Poisons Ordinance," made its first appearance in that colony, but was supposed to have died a natural death, until there was a

resurrection in September last. By the enactment of this pernicious Ordinance those carrying on the business of druggists are greatly interfered with. The practical knowledge and manipulative skill which these men have acquired through learning places them in high estimation in the community, and it is on mere grounds of principle that the druggists have applied for licence, and would gladly welcome any fair and unprejudiced Bill. If Great Britain in 1868² allowed men who were then trading as chemists and druggists to be placed on their register, why, asks the writer, should not the Lagos Government?

East Indian News.

HIS MAJESTY'S CONSUL-GENERAL FOR BUSHIRE reports that the gum industry is making rapid progress in Persia. A few years ago tragacanth was quite unknown.

GHAZIPUR OPIUM-CULTIVATORS STRIKE, the reason being that they claim higher prices for their opium, and have refused to accept the usual annual advance made to them. It is feared the strike may extend to the Behar districts.

THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE AT KASAUJI.—Captain Harrison, R.A.M.C., has been appointed assistant to Major Simple, at Kasauli, an appointment which has given much satisfaction as there is now no chance of the continuity of the work being interrupted.

OPIUM AND GANJA IN ASSAM.—The consumption of ganja in Assam last year showed an increase both in revenue and in the quantity sold, and altogether the Excise revenue is in a flourishing condition, the total of 2,932,579*r.* being the highest figure yet attained, and nearly a lakh above the revenue for the previous year. In regard to opium there was also an increase of revenue with a slight decrease of consumption in 1900-1901, and the opinion is expressed that the opium habit is becoming less prevalent among the Assamese, owing to the spread of education and a growing distaste for the drug among the younger generation. But the Chief Commissioner fears the diminished consumption is more due to the decrease in population in certain districts, and to the fact that smuggling is rife.

SALE OF AN INDIGO-FACTORY.—Messrs. Mackenzie, Lyall & Co., under instructions from the Official Liquidator, put up for sale recently to the highest bidder, at the Exchange Room, Calcutta, the estate of the Patkhoom Indigo-factory Company (Limited), in liquidation. There was a large attendance of Europeans and native Zemindars, the bidding being brisk and the competition keen. The first lot was the whole of the Patkhoom Factory in the district of Manbhoom, which included a pucca building known as the Bhoosa Factory, comprising factory and vats, together with, in all, fifty-five lots of land. This was sold for 51,500*r.*, the other lots falling to the hammer for smaller amounts. At the conclusion of the sale the Official Liquidator was of opinion that the sale was a most successful one, and the amount realised exceeded all anticipations.

Recent Wills.

PRICE.—The will of Mr. William Price, pharmaceutical chemist, 77 Bristol Road, Birmingham, who died on February 14, has been proved. The executors are his widow, Mrs. Clara Price, and Mr. Thomas C. Allely, jeweller. The gross value of the estate is 13,116*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, and the net personally is 10,073*l.* 2*s.*

WILKINSON.—Probate of the will of the late Mr. Peter Haines Wilkinson, of Craven Lodge, Harrogate, secretary to the Harrogate Gas Company, and formerly a chemist at Halifax, has been granted to Ann Wilkinson, widow, the sole executrix. The gross value of the estate is 4,714*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, including net personally 4,655*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*

WILKINSON.—Probate has been granted in the estate of the late Mr. Charles Wilkinson, chemist and druggist, Edgbaston, Birmingham, who died on July 20, 1900. The net value of the estate is 245*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, and his widow is the sole executrix.

Westminster Wisdom.

TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE RIVER TARIFFS.

Sir J. Rolleston asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies on August 15 whether, in view of the termination of the war in South Africa, and the establishment of settled government in the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies, it was intended to give equal opportunities for trade to foreigners as to British traders. Mr. Chamberlain said although the question of Customs tariffs had not yet been taken in hand, the Government had no intention of adopting any system of discrimination against foreign goods. Sir J. Rolleston has given notice that he will put a question on the same subject next session.

THE GERMAN CUSTOMS TARIFF.

It was stated in the House of Commons on August 15 that the proposed new German Customs tariff is still in the hands of the Tariff Committee of the Bundesrath, who will probably not report before the end of the year. The Commercial Intelligence Committee of the Board of Trade are taking steps to consult the principal Chambers of Commerce in reference to the new tariff.

THE PATENT LAWS.

On August 15, in the House of Commons, the President of the Board of Trade was asked whether his attention had been called to the conditions existing between this country and Germany and France in respect of the Patent Laws, and whether the Government would in the next Session of Parliament take steps to assimilate the law of this country to that prevailing in the countries named; and could he state what steps, if any, the Government intended to take to carry into effect any of the recommendations contained in the report, dated January of this year, of the Board of Trade Committee on the working of the Patent Acts. The following reply was given: "I understand the first part of the question refers to the forfeiture of patents for non-working which is provided for by the law in France and Germany. The proposal to introduce a similar condition in this country was considered by the Board of Trade Committee, but was rejected by them in favour of other proposals having a similar object. The Patent Law Amendment Bill which passed on August 14 was intended to give effect to one recommendation of the Committee; the other recommendations are under consideration. I may say that I hope it may be found possible to deal with the amendment of the Patent Laws before very long, but I am not in a position at present to give any pledge on the subject."

MILK ADULTERATION.

The President of the Board of Agriculture is issuing a circular letter to local authorities calling their attention to the recommendations of the Departmental Committee with regard to the adulteration of cream with gelatin or other substances, and to the administration of the Food and Drugs Acts generally, with the object of protecting the vendor whose milk is proved to be genuine though below the regulation limit, and of preventing milk being reduced to that limit if naturally above it. It is also proposed to direct the attention of local authorities to the desirability of a uniform procedure as to sampling and analysing the milk taken for examination, and to indicate what such procedure should be. Arrangements have been made by which the vessels used in the testing of milk can be officially standardised at the National Physical Laboratory. Mr. Strachey suggested that some means be taken to ensure that the addition of separated milk to whole milk could be detected, but he was told further legislation would be needed to effect that.

WATER-BORNE DISEASE.

Sir Michael Foster asked in the House of Commons on August 16 whether the Secretary of War proposed to seriously consider the establishment of a Royal Water Corps in the Army as a means of preventing enteric and other water-borne diseases in war, and was told that whilst the proposals had been carefully considered they were entirely impracticable for active service.

TELEGRAPHIC ANOMALIES.

Mr. Henniker-Heaton obtained the following reply to his question (*C. S. D.*, August 17, page 319) as to why Woodford Green in telegrams was charged as one word, but Camden Town as two words, and St. Pancras as one word, but Charing Cross as two words:—

Instructions were given many years ago that the name of every town and village was to be charged for as one word. The Postmaster-General agrees with his predecessors in thinking that this was an intelligible and clearly defined concession, and he is not prepared to extend it to the names of places or districts within towns. The fact that the concession has been made in the case of towns and villages explains the anomaly to which the hon. member calls attention; and I may add that to do what he suggests would not only involve the telegraph service in further loss but would create fresh anomalies of a nature much less intelligible than the one he now has in view. As to St. Pancras and Charing Cross, the Postmaster-General believes that he is simply following established usage, words having the prefix "St." being universally regarded as one, while "Charing Cross" is always regarded as two.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was prorogued by Royal Commission on August 17 until Tuesday, November 5. Royal assent was signified to sixty-two Bills agreed to by both Houses of Parliament, which then became Acts. The only two of direct interest to the drug-trade are the Patent Law Amendment Act and the Factory and Workshop Acts Amendment and Consolidation Act.

Californian Pharmacy Law.

A NEW Pharmacy Act has been enacted in California, which came into operation on July 1. It is divided into fifteen sections, and does not appear to differ materially from other American pharmacy laws. Two grades are provided for—viz., registered pharmacist and registered assistant pharmacist—and these may only "manufacture, compound, sell, or dispense any drug, poison, medicine, or chemical for medicinal use, or compound any prescription of a medical practitioner." It is noteworthy, in view of recent Pharmacy Act prosecutions here, that anyone violating the provisions of this section is liable to a fine of \$100 or to fifty days' imprisonment, or both. Registered pharmacists must either be licentiates (by examination) or practising pharmacists at the passing of the Act. An assistant claiming registration without examination shall give satisfactory proof that he has had five years' experience in drug-stores where physicians' prescriptions have been prepared. A special section deals with adulteration or substitution, and in the same section it is set forth that every registered pharmacist shall file all physicians' prescriptions compounded or dispensed in his pharmacy and preserve them for two years. He is, moreover, required to furnish a correct copy of any prescription at the request of the attending physician. The following articles must be labelled with the word "Poison," the name and address of the seller, and entered in a poisons-book:—

Arsenic, corrosive sublimate, cyanide of potassium, hydrocyanic acid, wood alcohol, strychnia, cocaine, and all other poisonous vegetable alkaloids and their salts, opium and all its preparations, except those which contain less than 2 gr. to the ounce.

In the case of Schedule B (which follows), besides labelling, as in the foregoing case, it is specially stated that the seller must, by inquiry, satisfy himself (or herself) that the buyer is aware of its poisonous character, and that it is to be used for a legitimate purpose. The list comprises—

Aconite, belladonna, colchicum, conium, nux vomica, savin, cantharides, phosphorus, digitalis, and their pharmaceutical preparations, croton oil, chloral, sulphate of zinc, sugar of lead, mineral acids, carbolic acid, oxalic acid, white precipitate, red precipitate, bismuthide of mercury, essential oil of almonds; and all medicines or preparations, secret or proprietary, of whatever kind or nature, that are intended to cause abortion or miscarriage.

No entry is required for poisons in the latter schedule, and the same exemptions apply to both scheduled poisons as in our own Acts. Section 13 provides that all persons registered under the Act are exempt from jury service.

Shop Hints.

By W. G. STRATTON, L.P.S.I.

SERIOUS cases of accident, due to the common practice of forcing home boxwood-topped corks with the hand, are not unknown. The writer has for some years used the method shown in fig. 1, and found it both rapid and safe. The illustration explains itself. The only point to which attention may be drawn is the sort of book, which should be cloth-bound. An out-of-date thick price-list answers admirably.



FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

The filtration of small quantities of thick liquids containing syrup or glycerin is often a source of annoyance to the pharmacist. If paper filters are used, they rapidly get more or less clogged, and filtration sometimes ceases altogether. Chamois or wash leather, which is at hand in almost every pharmacy, makes an excellent filtering-medium for such liquids. The chamois should be well rinsed in cold water, and, after being wrung, it should be affixed to a funnel as shown in fig. 2. Small clothes-line pegs are very useful for



FIG. 3.

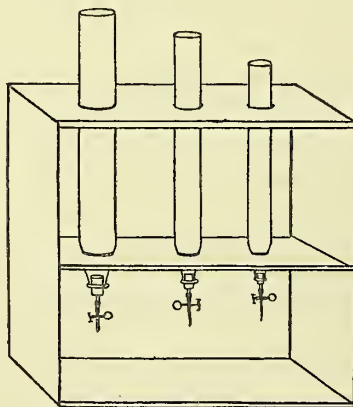


FIG. 4.

this purpose. The chamois should be arranged so that as small a portion as possible will come into contact with the sides of the funnel. Filtration is thereby expedited. Immediately after use the chamois should be well washed and carefully dried. The same piece may thus be kept serviceable for a large number of filtrations.

The pharmacist who prepares his own tinctures in quantities of a Winchester quart or two at a time will find cucumber-glasses answer well as percolators. These can be

obtained from any gardener's sundriesman at a small cost. They are strongly made, and vary in size from 1 to 2 feet in length, and from 3 to 4 inches in diameter, tapering to about 1 inch at the neck. Fig. 3 shows one of these fitted up as a percolator. The glass tube C should be cut off flush with the top of the cork B at D, while above it a plugget of tow, E, prevents the outlet from being choked by the marc. The rate of percolation can be controlled by means of the pinch-cock P fitted to the indiarubber tube T. The whole apparatus may be mounted on a retort-stand, or a frame (as shown in fig. 4) may be easily made to hold a series of such glasses.

The writer does claim originality for the foregoing hints. They have from time to time been found useful by him, and may prove of some use to others.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 11., obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," August 7, 1901.)

"TRYPTARGAN"; for chemical substances. By Chemische Fabrik Rhenania, Aachen, Germany. 239,444.

"POMMADE CHEVALIER," and device; for pomade for the hair. By Peato & Co., 126 Brayard's Road, Peckham, S.E. 237,653.

"FUELITE" and "METHYLITE"; for solidified spirit for use as fuel. By Fuelite (Limited), 9 Bridge Street, Westminster, S.W. 238,657, 238,658.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," August 14, 1901.)

Design of female Grecian figure kneeling and pouring a powder from her hand to a vase; for chemicals, detergents, &c., perfumery. By Heinrich Mack, Kohlgrasse 31, Ulm a/Danube. 238,780, 238,781, 238,783, and 238,784.

"KUKLOS"; for chemicals, scientific instruments, &c. By the Sports Trading Company (Limited), 33 Earl Street, Coventry. 239,017 and 239,018.

"SHADEINE" (no claim for "Shade"); for goods in Classes 1, 4, 17, 42, and 47. By Louis Alexandre, 30 Westbourne Grove, W. 239,188, 239,189, 239,190, 239,191, and 239,192.

"KREASOLE" (no claim for "Cresol"); for disinfectants. By F. Tolkien, 14 St. Mary Axe, E.C. 237,402.

"THYMOSOL" (no claim for "Thymos"); for chemicals. By Ness & Co., Church Row, Darlington. 239,001.

"ALVARINE" (no claim for "Alva"); for a non-poisonous disinfectant for poultry. By F. O. L. Walpole, Ivy Dene, The Bank, Highgate Hill, N. 239,184.

"ANTITHERMOLINE" (no claim for "Anti-thermal"); for chemicals. By G. W. Carnrick Company, 64-66 Murray Street, New York. 239,253.

"ACTOL"; for chemicals. By Kay Brothers (Limited), Stockport. 239,289.

"HEYDOZONE"; for a disinfectant in Class 2. By H. Heydon, 64 Basinghall Street, E.C. 239,305.

"DIGIT"; for soap in Class 2 and medicated soap. Wages Syndicate (Limited), 254A High Holborn. 239,352 and 239,353.

"UNITOR"; for disinfectants. By J. L. Dyson, 17 Leman Street, E.C. 239,565.

"VASOVAL" (no claim for "Vas"); for chemicals. By W. Poppelreuter, 54 Portland Street, Manchester. 238,225.

"ZARNO"; for a chemical compound. By Davie & Co., 2 Oswald Street, Glasgow. 239,032.

Device (the essential particular) being design for label with photograph and wording "Little Marks Remedies"; for medicines. By M. J. Whittaker, 146 Whalley Road, Clayton-le-Moors. 238,518.

"ILENE"; for an eye-lotion. By A. Benham, "Roselands," Teddington Park Road, Teddington. 239,144.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. JEWSEBURY & BROWN, of Ardwick Green, Manchester, have been appointed purveyors of mineral waters to his Majesty the King, in succession to the warrant held by them to the late Queen Victoria.

SPRATT'S PATENT (LIMITED) have received the Royal appointment to the King. Messrs. Spratt's foods and biscuits have been supplied to the Royal kennels at Sandringham and Windsor for many years.

THE Royal warrant of appointment to the late Queen Victoria, held by Messrs. P. B. Burgoyne & Co., 5 Dowgate Hill, E.C., has been extended to them by the King, as growers and purveyors of Australian wines to his Majesty.

TABLOID CACODYLATES.—Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C., have just placed before the medical profession tabloid sodium cacodylate (each containing $\frac{1}{4}$ gr.) for internal administration, and a smaller tabloid of the same strength for hypodermic medication. The uses of sodium cacodylate have been frequently alluded to in our columns, and many medical men will be pleased to be able to use the drug in "tabloid" form.

MESSINA ESSENTIAL OILS.—Messrs. Fratelli de Pasquale & Co., of Messina, whose essential oils of lemon, bergamot, orange, &c., have recently been analysed by Mr. E. J. Parry, B.Sc., have issued a report embodying his analyses and observations, from which we gather that all the samples submitted were of the highest quality obtainable. Messrs. S. Lambert & Co., 132 Fenchurch Street, E.C., who are the agents in this country, will be pleased to forward a copy of the report or samples of the well-known brand of "Cedar" lemon oil, &c., to buyers of original coppers.

Business Changes.

THE RUSSIAN DRUG-STORES has recently been opened at 198 Whitechapel Road, E.

MR. R. D. OWEN, pharmaceutical chemist, has opened premises at 359 High Road, Wood Green, N.

MR. W. C. LANGBOURNE, chemist and druggist, has taken over Burnett's Alexandra Drug-stores at 285 Hedon Road Hull.

MR. J. A. RILEY, pharmaceutical chemist, has taken over the business of Mr. H. R. Procter at 20 Shepherd's Bush Road, W.

MR. A. H. CARPENTER, chemist and druggist, has purchased the chemist's business at 177 Haydons Road, South Wimbledon.

BOOTS (LIMITED) have taken premises at 98 High Road, Wood Green, N., which they will occupy as soon as alterations are completed.

MR. A. A. RHODES, chemist and druggist, of Wrawby, has bought the business lately carried on by Mr. Draper, at Brigg, Lincolnshire.

MR. C. J. SAGE, chemist and druggist, Frome, has purchased the business lately carried on by Mr. W. B. Harvey at Bath Street, Frome.

MESSRS. VAN OPPEN & Co., wholesale and export perfumers, have removed from 28A Chalgrove Road, Hackney, to 38 Basinghall Street, E.C.

MR. S. E. M. VENN, chemist and druggist, is opening larger premises at Levans Road, Ford, Devonport, which will be known as the "Levan Pharmacy."

THE business lately carried on at Stansted, Essex, by Mr. E. P. Minett, pharmaceutical chemist, has been acquired by Mr. John Bristed, who will trade as Minett & Co.

THE business of Mr. J. Adams, chemist, at 323 Kentish Town Road, N.W., has been transferred to Messrs Lewis & Burrows (Limited) at 337 in the same thoroughfare.

MR. WALTER BURTON, pharmaceutical chemist, has removed from 71 Alfreton Road to more commodious premises at 92 Alfreton Road, corner of Newdigate Street, Nottingham.

MR. W. H. COLE, chemist and druggist, lately with Messrs. Brett & Co., of Yokohama, has purchased the business of Mr. A. H. Wilkerson, known as the Abbey Pharmacy, Glasstonbury.

MR. E. SAVEGE, chemist and druggist, lately manager of Nettle's Pharmacies (Limited), has purchased the business at 7 Broadway, West Norwood, formerly carried on by Mr. H. Huxley Mason as the "Era Pharmacy and Photographic Stores."

Marriage.

MCNEIL—MACKAY.—At St. John's, Newfoundland, on July 9, T. M. McNeil, of McMurdo & Co., chemists and druggists, St. John's, to S. Gertrude Mackay.

Deaths.

ANGIOR.—At Wigan, on August 5, Mr. John Angior, pharmaceutical chemist, for many years in business in Bootle, Liverpool. Aged 70.

BURR.—At Harpenden, of pneumonia, Mr. Reginald Burr, chemist's assistant. Aged 21.

FURMSTON.—At Shanklin, on August 14, Mr. Samuel Chambers Furmston, chemist and druggist. Aged 81. Mr. Furmston carried on business in White Hart Street, Wycombe, for many years, being succeeded by Messrs. Young & Co. in 1890.

HARRIS.—At 785 Old Kent Road, S.E., on August 14, Mr. Waddelow Chambers Harris, chemist and druggist. Aged 56.

LARKIN.—At St. Louis, Mo., on July 29, Mr. Thomas H. Larkin, of the firm of Larkin & Scheffer, manufacturing chemists. Aged 52. Mr. Larkin was a prominent figure in the drug-trade, and was secretary-treasurer of the National Ammonia Company, of St. Louis.

LATHAM.—At Frizinghall, Bradford, on August 14, Mr. Hugh Latham, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 27. Mr. Latham was a native of Kirkcaldy, N.B., where he was apprenticed with Mr. David Storrar, member of the Pharmaceutical Council. Soon after the expiry of his apprenticeship he studied for the Minor examination with Mr. William Duncan, of Edinburgh, and passed in January, 1896. In the following July he obtained the Major qualification. Immediately afterwards he entered the laboratory of Messrs. Savory & Moore, of New Bond Street, W., and after a few months was transferred to the analytical department. In April, 1900, Mr. Latham went to Messrs. Rimmington & Co. (Limited), of Bradford, to take charge of the laboratory, but soon the supervision of the wholesale department was added to his duties. An attack of pneumonia, aggravated by an unwise but faithful adhesion to his business-trust, brought about his death. Retiring in disposition, studious in habit, and obliging in manner, he won the esteem of all his business and private friends. About three months before his death his father removed, with his family, from Kirkcaldy, and settled in Bradford to be beside his son.

MARKHAM.—On August 14, Eliza, widow of the late Mr. John Markham, chemist, Reigate. Aged 84.

MCALLAN.—At Shevado, Brucklay, Aberdeenshire, on August 9, John McAllan, chemist's assistant, only son of Mr. John McAllan, overseer. Aged 24.

NEIL.—At Fettercairn, on August 12, Jane Rodgers, wife of Mr. William Neil, chemist and druggist, Fettercairn and Edzell.

NESS.—On August 15, Mr. Thomas Ness, chemical-manufacturer, Blackbanks, near Darlington. Aged 71.

NUTT.—On July 20, Mr. Archibell James Nutt, of 133 Fenchurch Street, E.C. chemist and druggist. Aged 56.

Our Town Traveller.

IT must needs be confessed that there may be occasions on which the Editorial mandate, "Go thou and do this or that," is not so acceptable as on others. But when the fiat went forth, "You had better run down to Cheltenham," I could not find—nor, indeed, did I seek for—any excuse for demur; for Cheltenham is one of the most charming towns in the West of England. Besides the virtues of its waters and baths (more celebrated in the days of George IV. than now), the

REPUTATION OF CHELTENHAM

as a high-class educational centre is recognised throughout the country. The town has a "tony" appearance about it, and this is reflected in its pharmacies. Both externally and, internally the pharmacies of Cheltenham appear, with scarcely an exception, to be nearly, if not quite, the pharmaceutical ideal. There are historic businesses in Cheltenham notably that of Messrs. Nathaniel Smith & Son, in the High Street, and the pharmacies of such firms as Messrs. Fletcher & Palmer, A. C. Saxby (lately Procter & Forth), Waite & Chambers, Butcher & Pattison, J. R. Mowatt, and several others have been in existence for a considerable number of years, and all seem but little affected by the "pirate depredations" of which we hear so much in these latter days. True, the legend in 6-foot letters, "Boots! Largest cash chemists in the world!" looms large opposite the bottom of the fashionable Promenade of the town, but the stationery, portmanteau, and general store department of the business so disguises the pharmaceutical portion that few, I imagine, will mistake the shop for a pharmacy. One business I have not mentioned, but which will probably be better known to the majority of the trade than any of those already spoken of, is that of Messrs. M. Beetham & Co., of Promenade Villas. This is a handsome double shop, and is the original home of

BEETHAM'S GLYCERIN AND CUCUMBER.

The founder of the business, Mr. Michael Beetham, died last year (see *C. & D.*, November 24, page 837), and his son, Mr. W. C. Beetham, who is now the sole proprietor of the well-known Beetham's specialities, has disposed of the retail business in Promenade Villas, and is confining his attention entirely to the wholesale and manufacturing portion of his business. In the course of a chat with Mr. Beetham at his offices in Imperial Lane, he told me several things which showed that although glycerin and cucumber is now not entirely associated with the name of "Beetham," yet the article still sells on its merits. "Larola," the new preparation, has practically the same basis as the cucumber, but has been improved in perfume and style to suit the demands of a later generation. A cursory inspection of the works,

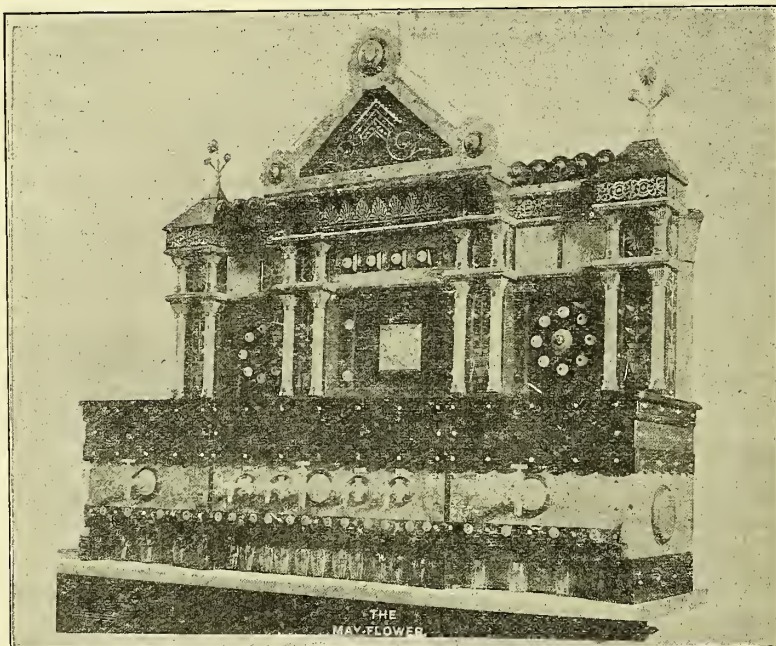
over which Mr. Beetham exercises a keen but kindly supervision, gave the appearance of no lack of demand for the Beetham specialities, and the cleanliness, neatness, and excellent hygienic conditions under which the employes work, augur well, not only for the firm's success, but also for the excellence of the articles supplied.

In the course of my ramblings through the "Boulevardry" streets of the town I chanced upon the works of the

CHELTINE FOODS (LIMITED),

in the precincts of the ancient parish church. My professional instincts impelled me to discover more about these foods, which I had previously heard of, so I walked in and was cordially received by Mr. Steele, the managing director. My request to see the works was at once complied with, and I inspected the factories lately constructed. Two large buildings are at present in use, but there is plenty of room left for the expansion which is anticipated. In one building the baking of Cheltine biscuits and bread is performed, and the other is used for packing and storing purposes. The

flour from which the Cheltinefoods are prepared is subjected to a patent process, Mr. Steele told me, which so changes the starchy characteristics as to make it easily digested, readily assimilated, and nutritive. On the ground floor of the first building are the ovens where the biscuits and bread are baked, and on the second floor are the drying-ovens. This building is in direct communication with the other by means of a kind of suspension tramway, which transports the finished products to the other building. The general impression which a visitor receives is that care and



A THOUSAND-POUND SODA-FOUNTAIN.

absolute cleanliness predominate, and that Cheltine preparations seem to be appreciated. I saw packed orders for all parts of the country being despatched by parcel-post and otherwise, many customers having a fresh loaf from the factory every morning. The Cheltine specialities comprise foods for diabetics, for dyspeptics, for anæmics, for invalids, and for infants; and in the office I inspected, in the original, piles of testimonials from physicians, chemists, nurses, and patients in all parts of the country. One of the most recent was a photograph of a well-fed, happy-looking infant reared on Cheltine, which Mr. Steele had just received from a London chemist who had sent it by request of the proud parents. Amongst other testimonials was one given by Dr. Bagot Ferguson, who is the President of the British Medical Association for this year.

During my visit I rambled over the Cotswolds and struck the quaint old town of Winchcombe, erstwhile capital of the kingdom of Mercia. In the Cross I discovered the familiar legend "chemist and druggist." The chemist I discovered to be Mr. A. Lee Hall, who has been a *C. & D.* subscriber for nearly twenty years. Mr. Lee Hall is the local manager of Lloyd's Park, and what spare time he has is devoted to the public weal.

My provincial visit over I returned to the sweltering metropolis, and in the search for refreshment lighted on

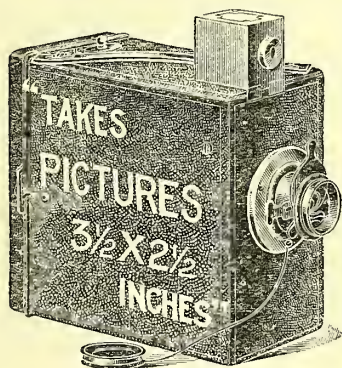
THE LATEST SODA-FOUNTAIN.

The hot summer has been all in favour of the enterprise of Messrs. N. W. Stiles & Son, of 94 Gray's Inn Road, W.C., who are not slow to take full advantage of their luck. Chemists are gradually adopting the soda-water fountain as part of their shop-furniture, the latest of Messrs. Stiles's recruits being Mr. R. Howden, of Gracechurch Street, and Mr. H. L. Spink, of Tottenham Court Road. But the biggest thing of the kind in this country so far is the 1,000l. apparatus figured opposite, and known as the "Mayflower." Granted suitable surroundings, the "Mayflower" soda-fountain, by its magnificence, is calculated to draw the public, if only to gaze upon it. It is constructed of nine different kinds of marble, and is adapted to dispense twenty syrups and seven beverages. The three compartments into which the fountain is divided may be used independently of each other if so desired. The engraving gives some idea of its construction, but only ocular vision can demonstrate the skilfulness with which Tennessee marble with Belgian black tablets, bevelled Genoa green mouldings, Gryotte cornice-panels, and Lisbon platforms have been intersected and decorated with gold, sienna, bardiglio, brocatel, and onyx to make a harmonious whole.

My next flight was to Blackheath to see the

NO. 2 "LITTLE NIPPER" CAMERA,

just put on the market by Messrs. Butcher & Sons, Blackheath, S.E. The new size is made to take six plates or twelve films, $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The body of the camera is of metal, covered with a leatherette resembling black morocco.



The lens fitted to the camera is a single-view lens, and can be adjusted to two speeds; it has also two diaphragms. The new finder is fixed on the outside of the camera, and can be shifted from vertical to horizontal as required. The plate-changing is done on the system, almost universal now, by which the plates drop forward after being used and after touching a catch on the outside. A leather handle for carrying completes the

camera, which sells at 6s. 6d. The No. 2 "Nipper" has been introduced rather late in the season for a record sale this year, but it should be in demand as a Christmas present, and is sure to have a big sale next year. It should be noted that the camera takes plates or cut films, both of which give greater satisfaction to amateurs—and especially beginners—than roll-films. Chemist-dealers should lay in a stock of No. 2 "Nippers"; they are bound to sell, as I am told the demand already is straining to the utmost the capacity of Messrs. Butcher's works at Blackheath.

CHEMICALS and unscented soap of the respective values of 828l. and 1,670l. were imported into Dutch Guiana last year from the United Kingdom and colonies.

AN ANCIENT ADVERTISEMENT.—A Northern subscriber sends us the following extract from a copy of the first number of the *Edinburgh Courant*, dated Wednesday, February 14, to Monday, February 19, 1705:—

That the famous Lozenges for Curing the Cold, stopping and pains in the Breast, the Kink Host, are to be sold by George Anderson at the foot of the Fish Mercat, and at George Moubray's shop, opposite to the Main Guard. Price, 8 sh. the Box.

Intimation is given in the same sheet (it was a single sheet) that "Advertisements may be put in this *Courant*, and for that end attendance will be given from 10 o'clock in the forenoon till 12, and from 2 in the afternoon till 4, at the Exchange Coffee House, in Edinburgh."

Photographic Notes.

By a Pharmaceutical Camerist.

HYPAX

is, I find, the name under which the anti-hypo referred to last week (page 318) is sold in this country by Messrs. Griffin. The substance is made by Messrs. George Meyer & Co., Zurich, and is in tablet form. The tablets are erroneously spoken of as pills in the directions on the tube. I think the term pill refers exclusively to a medicine in globular form.

EXPOSURE NOTE-BOOK.

An excellent photographer's exposure note-book has just been published by Messrs. Geo. Houghton & Son, 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C. It contains exposure-guide, particulars of photographic permits, developing for nu/a, postal information, weights and measures, and pages for recording exposures. A free accident assurance and list of dark-rooms are tucked into a pocket in the cover. The note-book is well got up and sells at 1s.

PHOTOGRAPHING PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

The *Lancet* of August 17 contains an article by Dr. J. E. Prowse, of Liverpool, on an improved method of photographing pathological specimens. The specimen is photographed whilst under water but not through glass. The camera is arranged in the vertical position over a glass jar with a plain bottom and straight sides. Some photographs of specimens taken in air and in water, with which the paper is illustrated, show the superiority of the method.

BLACK FOR SHEATHS.

The plate-holders in hand-cameras, if made of sheet-tin, can be chemically blacked by first scouring them with sulphuric-acid solution to clean them, and then boiling the sheaths in a mixture of

Sodium hyposulphite	...	...	5vj.
Copper sulphate	...	...	5iv.
Water	...	...	Oj.

BLACKENING BRASS

is accomplished by the following solutions:—

Silver nitrate	...	...	40 gr.
Distilled water	...	...	3ij.
Copper nitrate	...	...	40 gr.
Distilled water	...	...	3ij.

Dissolve separately and mix. Dip the clean brass in the mixture, and allow to dry; then heat strongly on a sand-bath or over a Bunsen burner. Repeat if necessary.

DEVELOPING-CARTONS.

Messrs. Wyleys (Limited), Coventry, have brought out a series of cartons for photographic use. The sample I have seen is a developing-carton for plates and films, which contains the developer and accelerator in powder form in a cardboard tube separated by a division. Such a carton, making a pint of Developer, sells for 4½d. There are other cartons for developing bromide-papers and toning (three kinds). I believe this firm were the originators of compound photographic pellets, which, under the name of "photopel," were put up as long ago as 1889. The experience thus gained makes Messrs. Wyley's photopels representative of the highest perfection in photographic pellets. Special circulars describing the cartons and photopels are supplied to dealers.

DARK-ROOM.

Mr. W. E. Plant, pharmaceutical chemist, 23 High Street, Doncaster.

[We are preparing for THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1902 a revised list of photographic chemists, and will be obliged if chemists who have dark rooms, or who deal in photographic goods, will communicate those facts to us. The first list was published in the 1896 DIARY, and has been continued at intervals since in the *C. & D.* Chemists whose names and addresses have already appeared need only write to us in those cases where they have changed their address or firm name.]

Scientific Progress.

Sucramine.—The new sweetening-body which has been placed upon the market, especially on the Continent, has been made the subject of a careful research by M. J. Bellier (*Nouveaux Remèdes*, 1901, 326), and he finds it to be nothing else than the ammonia salt of ordinary saccharine.

Strophanthus Oil.—According to Bjalobrzteski (*Chem. Zeit.* 1901, 150) the seeds of *Strophanthus hispidus* yield about 12 per cent. of oil by pressure and another 8 by extraction with ether. It is a brownish-green oil of narcotic odour, slightly soluble in alcohol, easily so in ether, petroleum ether, and chloroform. It solidifies at -6° , and melts again at $+2^{\circ}$. It possesses the following characters: Sp. gr. at 15° , 0.9249; acid-number, 24.3; ester-number, 170.3; saponification-number, 194.6; iodine-number, 101.6; Reichert-number, 0.9; Hahnemann-number, 94.1; melting-point of the free fatty acids, 33.2° . Among the constituents of the oil were found phytosterin, formic acid, oleic acid, stearic acid, and arachidic acid.

Some New Remedies.—Guacamphol is, as its name would imply, a combination of guaiacol and camphoric acid. It is a white powder, insoluble in water and in most other solvents. It is said to be very efficacious in dealing with night sweats.—Pancreone is the more or less indefinite compound produced when tannic acid is allowed to react with pancreatin. It is a greyish powder, quite odourless, and possesses great peptonising-power. It is difficult to see, however, how it can have any greater action than that which corresponds with the amount of actual pancreatin it contains, and, therefore, why it should be regarded as a new remedy at all.—Tyratol is a carbonate of thymol, and is recommended as a powerful vermifuge. It is a tasteless white powder.

Chloral Alcoholates.—Several compounds of chloral with alcoholic residues are well known, such as those of ethyl and methyl alcohols prepared by Martius, Mendelssohn, and Personne some time ago. Gabutti has now (*Jour. de Pharm. et de Chim.*, 1901, 173) prepared two new compounds of this nature. The propyl compound is prepared by allowing equimolecular quantities of normal propyl alcohol and of chloral hydrate to react, first at ordinary temperature, and finally at the temperature of the water bath. The resulting compound is purified by fractional distillation, and finally distils at 120° to 122° . The liquid thus obtained is colourless, with a faint odour of the alcohol. It does not solidify, even at very low temperatures. It is insoluble in water, but soluble in ether and alcohol. Its formula is



The secondary propyl alcohol also yields a compound. It is prepared in an exactly similar manner to that just described. It forms colourless crystals, melting at 47° and distilling at 108° . Its constitution is similar to that of the normal compound, differing only in the presence of the iso-alcohol residue. No compound could be prepared by using a tertiary alcohol.

Principles of Catha Edulis.—Beitter gives an interesting account of the principles of this plant in the current issue of the *Archiv. der Pharmazie* (1901, 17). The plant has long been employed in Arabia and Abyssinia as a stimulant against sleep and as a preventive of plague. It is one of the *Celastrinae*. The leaves, which are of a sweet, but somewhat astringent, taste, are employed in the form of a decoction. They have been examined several times by different chemists, but there has hitherto been some doubt as to whether the active principle of the plant was an alkalioid or a glucoside. Atfield and Flückiger showed the absence of caffeine, and later Flückiger and Gerock on the one hand, and Mosso on the other, isolated traces of an alkalioid, which they termed "katiné," but which they were unable to obtain in a state of purity. The present author examined the leaves especially in reference to the nature of the alkalioid (if such were present). The leaves were reduced to a fine powder, and, after addition of ammonia, were extracted with chloroform. After evaporation of the solvent, a small quantity of some basic principle was left, which was extremely difficult to purify. After this body was purified, the yield amounted to 0.08 per cent. of an alkalioid which formed white needles. A number of salts, including the acetate, sulphate, hydrochloride, and hydrobromide, were prepared. The alkalioid thus obtained, for which the term "katiné" is retained, gives all the usual reactions of alkalioids; but no specific reactions were obtained. Although the author states that the quantity at his disposal was too small to allow the composition of the base to be fixed with certainty, he still hazards a formula. This is $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}$. In addition to the alkalioid there were obtained from the plant a body, soluble in chloroform, of the formula $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}$, which from its general properties appears to be related to caoutchouc; a substance related to sugar, probably mannite; traces of a yellow essential oil, with a tea-like odour; and mineral matter to the extent of 11.6 per cent.

Medical Gleanings.

PUSTULAR ACNE.

The treatment of this troublesome affection adopted by Dr. H. Leslie Jones is thus given in the *British Medical Journal*:—The end of a little stick having been carefully cut to a fine point, is dipped in fuming nitric acid; any superfluous acid is taken up by blotting-paper. The base of the pimple having previously been smeared with vaseline, the sharp point of the stick is by a quick prod inserted into the pustule to its base; a few rapid turns drill fashion are then given to the stick so as to attack the walls of the pustule, and the operation is completed. The wood of the stick must be hard enough to take a very fine point, and soft enough to soak up the acid, and for the purpose a box of Bryant & May's matches answers admirably. A fresh match must be used for each pustule, for the acid quickly eats its way into the wood and destroys the rigidity of the point. Five or six pustules can be attacked at one sitting if on the chin and forehead, a larger number if on the shoulders and back. The remaining part of the treatment consists in thoroughly painting the face all over with turpentine at least twice daily, and on some skins oftener. Iron, arsenic, and quinine pills with cod-liver oil should be given during the course of the treatment.

DIURETIC PILLS.

Ext. stigmat. maidis	...	...	gr. xl.
Ext. convall. majalis	...	...	gr. xl.
Sodii benzoatis	...	...	gr. xl.
Lithii carbonat.	...	...	gr. xl.

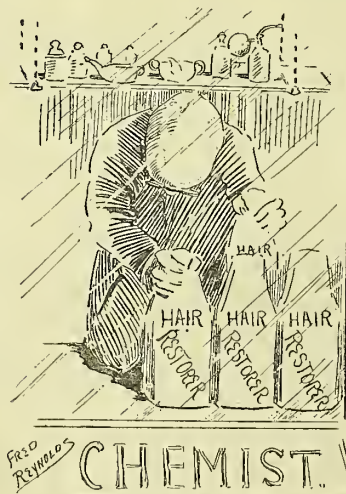
M. Ft. pil. xl.

Dose: three to six daily.

HAY FEVER.

The remarkable physiological effect of the suprarenal capsules as a contractor of bloodvessels suggested to Dr. Clement Dukes (*Lancet*, August 17) that a solution would be suitable as a hay-fever remedy. Such a solution being unstable, the difficulty was solved by the use of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s solution of adrenal chloride (1 in 1,000). A spray of the adrenal solution into the nostrils twice daily removes the sneezing and wheezing, whilst if the solution is applied to the congested conjunctiva relief is afforded in a few seconds. Quinine internally is needed for the prostration. In the few cases the adrenal treatment does not relieve, galvano-cautery applied to the nasal mucous membrane will effect a cure.

The Art of Pharmacy.



"A Thing to be Avoided."

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Mr. Glyn-Jones's Flank Attack

is good fighting, but it will only be a real success if it ultimately compels the proud oligarchy of Bloomsbury to submit to the discussion they have dreaded and warded off so long. Unfortunately, we are nine months away from the next election, and there is no chance of keeping any question burning all that time. Time is on the side of the tyrants in this contest. We cannot keep shouting "on se soumettre ou se démettre" from now till next May. So that a mere miserable moral victory seems to be all we can hope for, and that is what an intelligent enemy never grudges. The official spokesman's reply to the criticism is characteristic. It is his duty, I suppose, to defend the ruling forces, though this may occasionally involve the necessity of an entire right-about-face. In this case the official journal publishes Mr. Glyn-Jones's letter with the comment that it appears "as a statement of the opinions held by Mr. Glyn-Jones rather than as a record of circumstances." This to the guileless reader suggests that the narration of facts in the letter is not to be relied on; and that the editor, if he chose, could represent the little history in quite a different light. But this device is too thin. The only hitherto unpublished "fact," and the one on which the whole dispute hangs, is the exact wording of the forbidden motion. If Mr. Glyn-Jones has correctly given this, it will require a lot of ingenuity to satisfy any candid pharmacist that there could have been any proper reason, or even a decent excuse, for refusing to listen to it.

A Census of British Pharmacy

such as is suggested by "One of the Crowd," with exact details of qualified and unqualified assistants, branches, trading-names, and apprentices in shops open for the sale of poisons, would be of considerable interest, and, in view of possible legislation, might be useful. Its usefulness, however, might not be of the nature, substance, and quality desired. Suppose, for example, it were found that of every hundred shops run without a qualified manager, ninety belonged to actual or possible subscribers to the Pharmaceutical Society, and only ten to companies, the discovery might so moderate such enthusiasm as at present exists for the proposed Bill as to reduce it to very near zero. This, however, may not be a reason for not obtaining the information. All I want to say now is that it is of no use to ask, or, as "One of the Crowd" puts it, require, the Divisional Secretaries to furnish the statistics. A few of them would try, some of them would give them imperfectly, and the majority would do nothing. If they are really wanted a little clerical staff must be employed, and the work done and the requisite travelling expenses must be paid for. The cost would be not less than 500%. Is it worth it?

Magistrates Do Not Shine

in last week's law reports. The Alderman who was puzzled about 14 per cent. of the original fat being abstracted from milk when only 3 per cent. was the standard, surely ought not to decide cases under the Food and Drugs Act until he has had some little preliminary education in the alphabet of technical language. The meaning of the certificate was obvious enough, and any policeman in the court could have explained it. Perhaps, however, Alderman Morris was only indiscreetly candid. I fancy a good many magistrates are imposed upon by decimal fractions, which they are too proud to admit they do not understand. The Watford Magistrates were, perhaps, not

sufficiently impressed by the defendant's solicitor with the risk of selling B.P. ung. hydrarg. when mercurial ointment is asked for, but they got some glimmer of the reason why chemists are cautious in this matter. So they dismissed the case on payment of costs—2*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* But they added "chemists must protect themselves by"—selling the B.P. stuff? No, they dared not advise that; but they called upon the chemist to give a little lecture to his customer every time he sells him the article which he knows is required. If chemists were not such patient servants of the public, they might fairly reply, "I shall do nothing of the kind; I will sell what you say is the legally correct preparation; and if the public get salivated that is an affair between them and you; it is no concern of mine."

French Pharmaceutical Advertising

is a thing apart; *suivi* *generis*; sometimes naively simple, sometimes so transparent in its duplicity that it is surprising the iconoclastic and sceptical Parisians should ever be influenced by it. They are not much attracted by the herbs collected on the inaccessible slopes of the Andes, nor by the formulæ devised by Indian squaws. But they believe in each other, and for centuries they have revered their pharmacists as semi-savants. Thus they are disposed to put their money on the outcome of the long years of patient study in a laboratory, which they are told has resulted in the discovery of a new syrup or dragée. These comments only apply in a very limited degree to a clever little booklet which I have received, entitled "La Pharmacie à travers les Siècles," by Victor Nadal, and which I have read with interest. Victor having visited the Pharmacie Centrale du Nord, and its laboratory at St. Denis, was so impressed by what he saw that he was "inspired to consecrate a study to them." It is likely that he did so, and that he subsequently published his observations with the knowledge and consent of the proprietor of that business.

The Pharmacie referred to

is a large, smart, modern one in the Rue Lafayette, Paris, and is run on store principles. It was started not many years ago by M. Degraume, a prize medallist of the Ecole de Pharmacie, who, "desiring to profit by the glorious heritage which his predecessors in science had left him, conceived and created an ideal pharmacy under the astonished eyes of the Parisians." That is M. Nadal's literary way of putting things. M. Degraume's forerunners range from Hippocrates to Pelletier, but I can only find space to extract one little item from his historical sketch. It is new to me. In the seventeenth century, we are told, the apothecaries of Paris were in the habit of meeting to discuss the defence of their interests (which meant, no doubt, their grievances), and the interesting fact is that they met in the churches of Notre Dame, Ste. Opportune, and the Grands Augustins. This was not the only sign of their sanctity. In all their shops there was a niche at the far end where they placed a statue of either Christ, or the Virgin, or of some saint. But there were some Calvinistic apothecaries who shocked their brethren by putting an image of Mercury in the space. When the history comes down to M. Degraume the language of the author grows in luxuriance. "He was marvellously armed for the combat"; "his work is incomparable"; "he gave himself passionately to seek the best things"; "his staff has been recruited with such guarantees of competence that it constitutes a second Faculty of Pharmacy"; and so forth. There are pictures of the interior of the pharmacy (wherein I count twenty-seven customers), of the "Hall of Specialities," of the cabinet of surgical appliances, of the laboratory, and of the two-horse van in which the medicines are sent out. Continental pharmacists were at one time shocked at the unprofessional tendencies of chemists on what Mr. Reid would call "the wrong side of the Channel"; but they can evidently give us points now in the way of pushing business by glowing advertisements.

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Editorial Comments.

The Apprenticeship Difficulty.

A YEAR has nearly elapsed since we had occasion to refer to the increasing difficulty of getting boys as pharmaceutical apprentices, and during the interval reports from all parts of Great Britain have lent support to the view that the difficulty is as widespread as it is real. It is quite commonly stated that the raising of the standard of preliminary or general education for pharmacy is chiefly responsible for the scarcity, and while this statement is worthy of consideration there are other factors which cannot be overlooked. To these we now desire to call attention. The fact may here be recalled that from the passing of the Pharmacy Act in 1868 up to the extension of the general education standard the number of persons entering pharmacy year by year, as shown by the examinations, has been increasing. In the earlier years a few hundreds only passed the Preliminary examination annually, but latterly the passes were about a thousand a year. Scarcely 60 per cent. of those who passed the Preliminary examination have gone so far as to pass the qualifying one, for 500 new chemists and druggists yearly serve to keep the register slightly on the numerical up-grade. Although the examination statistics strongly demonstrate increased qualification, the fact must not be overlooked that during the first twenty years of the Pharmacy Act a large proportion of those who entered the drug-trade never troubled to pass either the Preliminary or the Minor examination. It is impossible to determine the extent of this non-qualified class, but it is fair to conjecture that were due allowance made for them it would be found that pharmacy has not increased in popularity to anything like the extent that examination statistics indicate. It is thus that the apparently contradictory elements provided in present-day individual experience and official statistics are reconciled. We must, however, go outside pharmacy to get a reasonable explanation of the comparative indisposition of parents to apprentice their sons to chemists and druggists. In the days when they were willing to pay 100% or 200% as an apprenticeship premium, it was known that phar-

macy was almost the only quasi-professional occupation which provided a fair living at an outlay of a third or less of what it cost to put a son into one of the learned professions. Now there have grown up, especially during the past twenty years, several quasi-professional callings which are much more remunerative than pharmacy, and in which the conditions of labour are better. The most important of these are (1) the application of science to manufactures, (2) financial pursuits, and (3) trade extension. The last of these is chief, for independent of the multiplication of minor clerical positions which the great extension of British trade has induced, the growth of modern competition and freer methods of trading have provided hundreds of independent positions for men who a generation earlier would never have got beyond the head-clerk stage of existence, apart from which the rate of remuneration to the best employé is now much better. Not inferior to the attraction which these positions afford to lads of the middle class are those now very largely provided in the financial world. Insurance and the Stock Exchange are of comparatively modern growth, and during the past twenty years have more than doubled the call that there was previously for the class of skill and labour employed in banking. These occupations attract many who, under the old conditions, would have become pharmacists, especially as the rate of remuneration from the outset is as much as the pharmaceutical improver can command, while the hours are shorter. The first of the three quasi-professional callings which we have mentioned as influencing pharmacy—viz., the application of science to manufactures—has drawn from pharmacy a considerable number of men who have qualified in it or passed the apprenticeship stage, and there can be little doubt that the facilities now provided for technical education have taught the public that there is another and perhaps better way of becoming a chemist than serving in a chemist's shop. The wholesale drug-trade and manufacturing pharmacy now employ hundreds of hands where ten sufficed a quarter of a century ago, and industrial and analytical chemistry are an attraction which was embryonic when the Pharmacy Act passed. But the growth of and differentiation in engineering in Great Britain have raised that occupation beyond the artisan stage, so that our public schools now adapt the last years of their curricula to fit boys to start with intelligence in electrical mining, mechanical or civil engineering. There the prospects of distinction and wealth are infinitely superior to what pharmacy provides, the social position is as good, and remuneration better. It is scarcely necessary to point out that in these comparatively modern employments the facilities for recreation are much greater than we find in pharmacy, and this alone is a dominating factor to the present-day youth, whose capacity for sport and leisure is prodigious. We shall return later to the probable influence which the stiffening of the pharmaceutical Preliminary examination will have upon the apprenticeship difficulty. In the meantime we submit the foregoing considerations for the reflection of those who wish apprentices. The moral which they should deduce is that free evenings and good pay are attractions to boys nowadays, and as these scarcely exist in pharmacy boys avoid becoming chemists' apprentices.

Energetic Chemical Action,

resulting in explosion, was responsible for fifty-nine deaths and non-fatal injury to 304 persons in 1900. Accidents with explosives in mining-operations account for the greater part of the injuries and fatalities resulting from the 282 casualties which came to the knowledge of the Home Office

in that year. These particulars we learn from the twenty-fifth annual report of the Inspectors of Explosives, which has just been published. The report shows that there are 11,098 persons employed in explosive-manufactories, and it is a testimony to the efficacy of the precautions enforced by the Explosives Act to find that only nine deaths from accidents occurred among these workers—a very low death-rate for such a risky trade. Among the explosions three were caused during the illegal manufacture of fireworks. One case of an engineering student in the N.W. district of London, which we reported at the time, ended fatally. Two other accidents were due to a juvenile thirst for chemical experiments. The first occurred at Northampton to a boy of 13, who was mixing chlorate of potash, sulphide of antimony, saltpetre, and amorphous phosphorus in an iron dish; whilst the other case, at Glasgow, resulting in injury to three persons, was due to a boy who had been attending chemical lectures making gunpowder, and firing a squib off in the vicinity of the jar in which he had stored the powder. In the early part of 1900 an explosion occurred at the Stirling Chemical-works, West Ham. Some collodion-cotton was being dried, and on a man going to pick it over the whole amount fired, injuring him and entirely destroying the store. The cause was probably friction acting on the hot and sensitive nitro-cotton. The London County Council reported to the Home Office two explosions on chemists' premises. One at 44 Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, W., is thought to be due to gas; whilst the other, at 8 Ray Street, Clerkenwell, E.C., resulted from the breaking of a bottle of ether followed by some bottles of sulphuric acid. The ether vapour, it is thought, igniting at a gas-fire in an adjoining room caused the explosion. Magnesium powder and chlorate of potash, such as used by photographers for producing flash-light, caused an explosion at Cannon Street Station, which at first was thought to be an outrage. It is conjectured that the flash-light powder was either thrown away on to the rails or was dropped by accident. A consignment of explosive toy marbles was stopped at the Albert Dock and sent to Dr. Dupré for examination. The marbles were found to be coated with a composition containing phosphorus, and there was more danger to be feared from poisoning than from explosion. The importer agreed to wrap each marble in tissue paper bearing a printed caution. We notice in one explosion in Scotland from gunpowder it is stated that the powder was kept for medicinal purposes. A Committee on acetylene apparatus, appointed by the Home Office, is examining acetylene-generators, as some are being sold which are by no means free from danger.

The chemical work of the Department is published as a report from Dr. Dupré, and, although it refers chiefly to the testing of explosives, contains some items of chemical interest. An extensive series of experiments on the action of picric acid on some metals has brought out some new facts. With iron picric acid forms at first ferrous picrate, which easily fires; ferrous picrate soon changes into ferric picrate, which is much less sensitive. Pure tin is unacted on by even a concentrated solution of picric acid; copper, too, is unacted on when air is excluded, but picrate of copper forms under the joint action of picric acid and air. Aluminium is acted on slowly by picric acid, but no picrate is formed. Melted picric acid forms picrates with most metallic oxides, picrate of lead being decidedly, and picrate of potassium slightly, more sensitive than the acid. All picrates explode when heated, but by far the most violent in its action is the lead salt. Some interesting experiments were made on the action of dilute sulphuric acid on mixtures of chlorate of potash and sugar. A small quantity of the sugar mixture was moistened with diluted acid of

various strengths, the moistened powder being wrapped in cotton wool and heated on a water-bath. Under these conditions it was found that when the strength of the acid exceeded 1 per cent. the chlorate-mixture frequently exploded after a time, but that when the strength of the acid went below that ignition did not take place. In consequence of a statement by a manufacturer of collodion-cotton that this substance readily takes fire when in contact with a surface heated to 212° F., also losing nitrogen, some experiments were made to test this assertion. Portions of collodion-cotton kept in a heated copper water-oven for six hours a day for a week gave no indication of spontaneous combustion, and only lost a trifling percentage of nitrogen.

Cape and Other Aloes.

THE drug-sales of the present year have been noteworthy on account of the comparatively small quantities of Cape aloes that have been offered at them. Evidently the result of the South African war is at last beginning to make itself felt on the market; but it is curious to note that last year, while the war was at its height, regular supplies of Cape aloes came forward in abundance, especially during the first half of the year, and it was not until the latter half that a falling-off was apparent. This circumstance may, we think, be attributed to the large production in 1899, when heavy stocks were left over. According to official statistics, we have imported, so far this year, only about five hundred cases from the Cape, of which about two hundred cases have been offered at the drug-auctions. The remainder were received at Southampton in transit for Hamburg and other continental ports, where the bulk of the stuff sold on the London market eventually finds its way.

This is the time of the year when the first shipments of the "crop" are due in London, and from now onwards until the late autumn the drug is supposed to arrive in larger or smaller consignments, but the tendency of late years shows that arrivals take place more or less all the year round. At the present time good bright hard aloes is unobtainable on this market, and (as usually happens when a drug is scarce) it is much sought after, buyers, it is said, being willing to pay 30s. per cwt. for it.

The statistical table which we publish below shows the chief fluctuations in the London market-price of good hard bright Cape aloes for the last eleven years:—

Year	January-February	March-April	May-June	July-August	Sept.-October	Nov.-Dec.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1891	21 6	{ 20 6 } 21 0	—	{ 23 0 } 30 0	19 0	—
1892	{ 19 0 } 19 6	—	25 0	{ 22 0 } 23 0	{ 20 6 } 21 0	22 0
1893	21 0	23 0	30 0	{ 23 6 } 24 0	{ 24 0 } 25 0	{ 23 0 } 24 0
1894	22 0	21 0	23 0	22 6	23 6	22 6
1895	23 6	23 6	25 0	26 0	{ 23 6 } 24 6	23 0
1896	22 0	25 0	25 6	24 6	{ 23 6 } 22 6	21 0
1897	{ 19 0 } 22 0	22 0	22 6	22 0	{ 19 6 } 21 6	23 6
1898	23 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	26 0	{ 25 0 } 23 0
1899	{ 25 0 } 25 6	26 0	24 0	26 0	25 6	23 6
1900	23 0	30 0	27 6	25 0	23 6	24 0
1901	25 6	27 0	23 6	{ 29 0 } 30 0 (nominal)	—	—

It will be noticeable from the above table that during the past decade the price has not risen above 30s., while on two occasions it has fallen to 19s. per cwt. It has always been

characteristic of this drug to have a tendency to rise in value from the early spring until July or August, and then to gradually fall away during the remainder of the year. Whether this will again prove to be the case depends entirely on the shipments from Natal and the Cape during the next five months. Since the opening of the "season" only one consignment of thirty-two cases has been received, and the vessels which have arrived this week have brought no further supplies. On the other hand, Curaçao aloes (from which aloin is almost exclusively manufactured in this country and the United States) has been fairly plentiful this year, and in March last 37s. was paid for fine livery quality, but at the last drug-auction similar aloes brought 30s. only. The annual importation of Curaçao aloes into London varies, according to demand, from 500 to 2,000 cases of 1 cwt. each; while the imports of Socotrine are estimated at 350 packages of 1½ cwt. each, and Zanzibar aloes at 200 packages of 3 cwt. each. Of all kinds of aloes in cases, &c. (excluding gours) 728 packages have been imported this year; the deliveries amount to 1,060 packages, leaving a stock on July 31 of 2,724 packages, compared with 3,064 packages and 2,424 packages at the corresponding periods of 1900 and 1899 respectively.

Proprietaries in Austria.

THE manner in which the sale of secret remedies is carried on in Austria will, we imagine, not meet with the approval of the proprietors of patent medicines in free and enlightened America. That the subject has been troubling the modern medicine man of the West is shown in the report which U.S. Consul-General Carl Bailey Hurst, of Vienna, has issued to his Government, "in consequence of many inquiries addressed to this Consulate-General in the matter of the Government regulations in Austria regarding the importation and sale of patented medicinal and chemical preparations." Mr. Hurst reports that trade in such medicines and advertisements of the same are under the keen surveillance of the law, the sale of "arcana" (secret remedies) being strictly forbidden. Medicinal preparations the formulas for which are not open to inspection by physicians, or in the prescriptions of which the various ingredients cannot be definitely recognised, may not be kept for sale by apothecaries. Only such may be considered pharmaceutical specialities as contain drugs acknowledged to be medical remedies (balsam copaiba, oleum santali, and the like), or pharmaceutical preparations, as extractum filicis maris, extractum cubebæ, &c., or simple mixtures of the same in a new and more practical form of application, or more pleasing to the sight, smell, and taste, such as capsulæ gelatinosæ et mylacæ, glazed, sugar-coated, or other kinds of pills, gelatinæ medicatæ, saponæ medicatæ, and so on. The authentic formulas of all non-official pharmaceutical preparations and specialities for sale by apothecaries must be kept ready for immediate inspection on request by the authorities. Furthermore, copies of the labels, directions for use, engravings, advertisements, or publications of any kind in reference to the same must be kept on file, and the authorities may stop the sale of all pharmaceutical preparations which do not conform to these regulations. Each new medicinal preparation must be reported to, and its sale sanctioned by, the authorities, and formulas of foreign medicines must be accompanied by precise directions for their preparation, and the manufacturer's signature and business stamp. Patent medicines (so-called) may not be imported by private persons without permission, but small quantities may be carried by travellers for their own use. Certain limits are placed on the importation of secret remedies even by

druggists, and cosmetics that affirm their efficacy for the removal of personal blemishes, such as impure skin, freckles, liver spots, and baldness, are altogether excluded. The latter restriction is peculiar, the Austrian Government apparently associating a "personal blemish" such as a bad working liver with some moral delinquency which requires expiation. The regulations regarding the advertisement of patent medicines are also very strict. Laudatory notices in local publications of cures and foreign remedies constitute a transgression of the trade laws, and, under certain circumstances, render the advertiser liable for prosecution for unlicensed medical practice. Consul Hurst advises, however, that as the importation of foreign remedies is permitted to druggists, a suitable announcement of the same in the papers cannot be forbidden if done in accordance with existing laws, "all the more," he adds, quaintly, "as the advertising druggists are responsible for any illegal action." The recommendation of any special remedy for general use will not be sanctioned, but to the straightforward announcement of any *admissible* medicinal preparation with mention merely of its direct effect—purgative, sudorific, soporific, or otherwise—no objection can be taken. Writing on the same subject, U.S. Consul Hossfeld, of Trieste, says the Austrian law also undertakes to regulate the prices to be charged for patent medicines, so that whenever the reasonableness of the charge is questioned, the remedy shall be rated on the basis of the official tariff in the Pharmacopœia Austriaca. He cites a case which came under his knowledge recently in illustration of the expense and disappointment to which firms are put through ignorance of the Austrian pharmacy law. An American firm, doing a large export business in family remedies, informed him (Mr. Hossfeld) that a consignment of medicine shipped to its agent in Dalmatia had been held up on the ground that the agent must obtain a permit from the sanitary authorities before the parcel could be delivered to him. The firm stated that no legal restraint was placed upon the sale of its remedies elsewhere, and requested him to facilitate their entry, if possible. All he could do was to call the attention of the firm to the Austrian law regulating the sale of proprietary medicines, and to advise it to appoint as its agent a licensed pharmacist, partly because such a person would probably be able to facilitate the sanitary examination of the remedies withheld, but especially because none other would be authorised to sell them when admitted. In conclusion, Mr. Hossfeld remarks that, although manufacturing chemists who are disposed to take the Austrian public or sanitary authorities into their confidence would not find it difficult to obtain permission for the sale of their products, he doubts whether the profit which would accrue would be worth the trouble—an opinion which, we imagine, many of the manufacturers interested will endorse.

A MEDICAL VIEW

of Mr. Druce's Conference address is afforded by the remarks made this week by the *Lancet*. No one can doubt, says our medical critic, that during the last half-century the position of a dispensing chemist has not improved, and that as a body there is cause for complaint. Forty years ago in a country town the chemist and bookseller shared the prominent positions amongst the tradesmen. The dispensing chemist was, as a rule, better educated than his fellow-tradesmen, and so from the first had the advantages which are given by sound preliminary training; the bookseller was more often a self-educated man, but his constant contact with books and bookbuyers and the use of his own library usually made him one of the most interesting men in the town. Other tradesmen, it is stated, have to a large extent taken away the predominant position occupied by the chemist and book-

seller, due to the general spread of education and increased power of money apart from culture. The *Lancet* does not agree with Mr. Druce that it is difficult to know what was the actual position of pharmacy at the beginning of the century, and says that—

surely the conditions under which medicine, surgery, and pharmacy were practised during the first half of the last century in London are not mysterious. A great deal of the work fell to the apothecary, and this was the case not only in the City of London, but also in the poorer parts of the town and amongst the well-to-do and leisured classes who lived in Soho, in St. James's, and in Mayfair. The physician saw and prescribed for the patients, and the active treatment which he ordered was carried out as a rule by the apothecary—in many cases rather a subservient individual who, in the treatment of the upper classes, confined his attention strictly to carrying out the instructions given to him by the physician either by word of mouth or in writing. In those days bleeding was part, and no small part, of the work of an apothecary. It was his function also to cup patients, to supply leeches, to call for the physician's prescription, and, finally, to make up and deliver the medicine. Many of the apothecaries had open shops, and sold other articles of merchandise besides drugs. Of the successors to these apothecaries some became general practitioners as we now know them and some dispensing chemists. The majority of dispensing chemists at the present time doubtless confine their attention to making up prescriptions as ordered, and to selling drugs and various other articles more or less intimately connected with pharmacy; though it cannot be denied that here and there may be found gentlemen who add considerable medical and surgical duties to their day's work.

The article concludes by declaring that counter-practice "in the interests of everybody" should not be, and with a remark that there is room for reform in the matter of the usurpation of pharmacy by unqualified limited companies.

EVENING CLASSES.

Professor W. Ramsay, whose address to the students at the opening of the School of Pharmacy last year on the mechanical system of education attracted much attention, made some similar remarks in an oration recently delivered at University College. The address was on the functions of a University, but the part referring to evening classes interests us most. Professor Ramsay said his experience is that the majority of persons who come to a University possess germs of the faculty of originating in many instances to a very high degree. Such persons are of most value to a country, as many of them will contribute to its commercial prosperity. The evening technical classes, on which huge sums of money are now spent, give but scrappy scientific education in the nature of intellectual relaxation only. A man who has been engaged in manual labour all day, and who lacks the previous training necessary to enable him to profit by such instruction, can hardly benefit by an occasional hour in the evening devoted to science, and least of all can his faculty of originating be developed. The Universities should be the technical schools, and the students should be patiently taught how to investigate, so that their talents can be brought to bear on any subject which will advance and not merely disseminate knowledge. The evening is not the time for such work. Both pupil and teacher need brains not already fatigued by a long day's work, and the time occupied by the official evening class—7 till 10—is barely sufficient to carry out an investigation in science. Professor Ramsay again attacked the present examination system, which, "originally started to cure the abuses of our Civil Service, has eaten into the vitals of our educational system like a canker, and is fostered by the further abuse of awarding scholarships as the results of examination." The whole address is printed in *Nature*, and is well worth reading on account of the food for thought it furnishes.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

For some time now wireless telegraphy has been boomed, in season and out of season, until one cannot but admire the persistent manner the new discovery is pushed forward. If there is a yacht-race, the departure of a royal personage on

a sea-voyage, or communication established with an Atlantic liner or a lightship, the public get a paragraph served up in their daily papers as to how the results were recorded by wireless telegraphy. There is an aspect, however, of ethereal telegraphy which is not so prominently put forward as it deserves—that is, that as at present practised there is no secrecy about the messages. A good example was afforded in the recent naval manoeuvres, where the ships of the opposing forces were fitted with wireless-telegraphy appliances. One fleet played the part of eavesdropper with great success, and picked up messages which were being sent from one ship to the other of the enemy's fleet. The communications were in cypher, it is true, but a little study and comparison soon got over that difficulty and made the messages readable and useful. The fact is that until the transmitting-instrument can be so adjusted as to emit vibrations of different pitch at the will of the operator, and the receiving-instrument attuned to that pitch, the development of wireless telegraphy can only be said to be in the experimental stage and not sufficiently advanced to be commercially boomed.

THE LACHNANTHES CURE.

Col. W. Le Poer Trench, in the *Times* of August 20, pleads for a public test of the efficacy of lachnanthes in the cure of tuberculosis, and towards this end offers to contribute 1,000*l.* Lachnanthes tinctoria, spirit-weed or red roots, has been used in tincture form for checking the cough of phthisis, and is said to be the active ingredient in the medicine used by Mr. Alabone. Col. Le Poer Trench notes that at the recent Congress on Tuberculosis the use of lachnanthes was not even mentioned, due, he says, to the efforts made by the General Medical Council to suppress the cure. It will be remembered Mr. Alabone's name was struck off the Medical Register some fifteen years ago for "infamous" conduct in advertising his remedy, a fact which prompts the Colonel to say that "future medical legislation should be carefully watched, and—with a view to control the use and prevent the abuse of the considerable and necessary powers vested in the medical authorities—such legislation should be accompanied by an enactment which would bring the medical authorities in the exercise of their powers under the control of some office responsible to Parliament, while, at the same time, means of appeal against unjust decisions should be provided and placed within the reach of all." It is possible, however, that the lesson the G.M.C. recently received over the Irvine case will not be lost.

THE DOCTOR AND THE PILLS.

What appears on the face of it to be rather a *non sequitur* medical opinion is reported in our news columns (page 332) in connection with an inquest held at Canning Town. A child died from the effects of eating some "pink pills," and the doctor who made a *post-mortem* examination is reported as saying that the pills *probably* contained something of a sufficiently poisonous nature to kill the child. He only found food and "a pink coloured substance" in the stomach. Having tasted one of the pills, the doctor is said to have declared "he believed nostrums of that kind contained strychnine, phosphorus, quinine, and an extract." The symptoms before death were, he admitted, not those of strychnine-poisoning, yet he believed, and the jury endorsed his belief, that the child died from some poison contained in the pills. We can quite understand a child dying after swallowing all at once six or seven of any of the pills in the British Pharmacopœia almost, but the grounds for the medical man's belief that the pills contained poison are not quite so clear. The detection of strychnine, phosphorus, and quinine in a pill *by taste* is a perfection of analysis to which pharmacists or even Fellows of the Institute of Chemistry may well despair of attaining.

CINCHONA.

Mr. John H. Stallman, of New York, is the author of a brief but interesting article on "Peruvian Bark as viewed from a Commercial Standpoint," which appears in the July number of the *Journal of Pharmacology*. The article is mainly historical, and although Mr. Stallman finds a difficulty in saying anything new, he deals concisely with the data of the industry up to the present time. Mr. Stallman calls attention to the enormous increase in the consumption of cinchona of late years. The average annual production of bark in all countries twenty years ago, he says, was about 6,000,000 lbs.; in 1890 the production had increased to over 18,000,000 lbs., which seems to have been the high-water mark. In 1900 the production was not over 14,000,000 lbs., but of a high test, while the accumulated stocks in Europe had become much reduced. Appended to the article is an extract from a London price-list, which says:—

To sum up, it appears that consumption has at last overtaken production, and increased shipments from Java will be required to supply manufacturers and make up for the expected deficiency from British East India and Ceylon, and in any case we fancy the days of quinine selling below 1*s.* per oz. are numbered, and we think it safe to prophesy that the average value of the unit during the next three years will be above the average of 1896-98. The present state of the cinchona and quinine markets do not now seem to favour this view, especially if the increased shipments from Java (which already show an excess of 1,710,000 Amsterdam lbs. over 1900) should continue.

THE STANDARD FOR MILK.

The Board of Agriculture was empowered by the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, to fix a standard for milk, so that when a sample of milk is found to contain less milk-fat and milk-solids than the limit fixed on, the milk shall be presumed to be not genuine unless the contrary is proved. The regulations which apply to Great Britain were published in the *Gazette* of August 6, and come into operation on September 1. The following is the wording of the regulations:—

1. Where a sample of milk (not being milk sold as skimmed, or separated, or condensed milk) contains less than 3 per cent. of milk-fat, it shall be presumed for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine, by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk fat, or the addition thereto of water.
2. Where a sample of milk (not being milk sold as skimmed, or separated, or condensed milk) contains less than 8.5 per cent. of milk-solids other than milk-fat, it shall be presumed for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine, by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk-solids other than milk-fat, or the addition thereto of water.
3. Where a sample of skimmed or separated milk (not being condensed milk) contains less than 9 per cent. of milk-solids, it shall be presumed for the purposes of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 1875 to 1899, until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine, by reason of the abstraction therefrom of milk-solids other than milk-fat, or the addition thereto of water.

PERMANGANATE DISINFECTION.

The Hankin method of disinfecting wells consists of adding 2 or 3 oz. of permanganate of potash to the water in the well, and has been used in India for diminishing the risk of cholera-infection. Dr. Dhingia, in a paper read before the British Medical Association, demonstrates that no profound chemical or biological changes in the constituents of the well-water are brought about by the use of permanganates. The permanganate first expends itself in oxidising nitrites and organic matter before attacking organisms, which are so resistant to it that only the use of 5-per-cent. solutions is permissible. The apparent good results which have followed the use of permanganate must be due, Dr. Dhingia says, to other causes, and certainly not to a diminution in the number of cholera-vibrios.

DANYSZ RAT-BACILLUS.

We have several times received inquiries as to the method of killing rats by means of the Danysz bacillus, and inquirers will be interested to know that Drs. Klein and Williams have contributed to the *Lancet* an account of experiments they have conducted to test its efficacy. The idea of the inventor, Danysz, was to produce fatal septicæmic disease in the bodies of infected rats, which spreads so rapidly that they are destroyed without being induced to migrate. As rats have been proved to have spread bubonic plague to the human subject it is obviously very desirable to have such an easy method of ridding warehouses, sewers, and docks of the vermin. The Danysz bacillus, in its morphological and cultural characters, belongs to the tribe of virulent coli bacilli, and has been found to cause death in rodents when injected subcutaneously. The question to be determined was whether it causes death in a large percentage of rats fed on it. Laboratory experiments on rats were not very conclusive, and experiments in a large warehouse yielded negative results. Between April 26 and May 31 sixty tubes of Danysz's rat-virus, obtained direct from the Pasteur Institute of Paris, were used in various ways in the warehouse, but the results show that as a method of wholesale destruction of rats the virus is unsuited. It is apparently necessary to catch the rats and inject them with the bacillus to ensure fatal results.

The Galen Glee-club.

FIRST NIGHT.—THE ROUNDELAY.

"THE purple leaves of autumn slowly fade,
The hoary frosts of winter coldly lie
On hill and dale and mountain-cliff and glade,
And summer breezes like the gentle sigh
Of western wind have sung their serenade
And joined the years that live awhile and die;
The harvest moon shines beacon-like above,
The orator sheds eloquence below,
The students to their betters throw the glove
And daring Galen Place they come—and go."

'Twas thus Ricardo mused as sitting lone
He watched the embers fitful chase the gloom;
In cosy nook where free from mock or moan
The Great Men of the Square where Berries bloom
Do congregate what time the flowing bowl
And weed nicotian urge the flow of soul.

For no mere man a misanthrope abides
If he absorb ethylic aldehydes
In due proportion, tinged with H₂O,
And cort. limonis (half an ounce or so),
And drachm of saccharum. Thus reconciled
Divergent minds are moulded into mild
And inoffensive atoms seeking naught
But peace and comfort, 'voiding topics fraught
With dire dissension's germs.

Here the man
Who conquered Kilburn as but Cornwall can,
The lad fra' Shevfield and the chiel' frae Fife,
The Bond Street Champion soothing heated strife,
Warrior from Finchley smiling undismayed
At pinchbeck pontiffs pert, but sore afraid,
The Poplar bandit (Kensington *en suite*),
And learned Liverpoolian, all do meet
In brotherhood and harmony to sing
The gladsome glee or make the welkin ring
With circumfluent chorus. Forth they roam
Behind the fiery cabhorse or in brougham,
Or 'bus with steeds quite thickly flecked with foam.
The shaggy Shrewsburian, *suaviter in re*
Sed fortiter in modo;—famed Lancs three,
Each pregnant with opinion, free of speech,
But widely differing; though the aim of each

To free the sufferer, haste the day of Light,
And mark the dawn which bodes no dreadful night.
These and the others all of whom we know
Meet by Ricardo's hearth and sing—and go.

The Sheffield blade whose haughty hybrid word
Marks him distinctive from the plebeian herd,
Dispenses justice from the chair of state,
Working unwittingly the hand of fate,
While keen Kilburnian hiding in his tent
Declares that words are not the words he meant;
The Ancient Moon in rosy radiance beams,
The circumambient constellation gleams,
The Bandit rages and the Wise Man sighs
At Wrong triumphant and the Truth's demise;
But each forgets the happenings of the day
As snug at night they chant the roundelay:—

THE BUDDING MORROW.

Let not hearts be fraught with sorrow,
Dash the tear from weakling eye,
Think but of the bright to-morrow
When all store-directors die.

Dark although our pathway seemeth,
Sunshine soon our lives will fill,
Fortune on our Wise One beameth,
See him pass Our little Bill.

Black the clouds are that surround us,
'Whelmed our bark by surging sea,
But the lifeboat soon hath found us
With a twenty-guinea fee.

Lowering sky and visions dreary,
All our withers are unwrung,
But we'll soon be chirping cheery
When Lord Gifford finds his tongue.

Enemies make rude reflections,
Want to lift the incubus,
Seek to influence elections,
Statesmen all consult with Us.

Friends our chops are often wiping,
But we answer them with gibes;
Adepts we at gutter sniping
Watch our courteous paint-shop scribes.

Honest always you will find us,
Giving to each man his due;
Inconvenient hints remind us
We owe Reece a pound or two.

Advocates of free discussion
To all under British rule,
Though we much prefer the Russian
Methods, or the mode Stamboul.

Stifle speech when not quite pleasing,
No true man could take offence,
Snuff out Bandits quick as sneezing
With a passive insolence.

Soon our path made soft and rosy,
Downy our fair couch will be,
Maidens bring us floral posy,
Silk and lace and filagree.

Happy thought! a jubil-emblem
Put up someone on the cadge,
Pearls or something to resembl'em,
Let us mark Him with a Badge.

Noble hearts (and heads) so eager
Fighting hard our brothers' cause,
Marvel we at praise so meagre,
Ingrates really! give us pause.

Thus though Pharmacy may borrow
Pain our pleasantness to pay,
Let us think of midnight's morrow
Troll the merry roundelay.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Liquidators' Responsibilities.—The liquidator of the Tamar Potteries Company was summoned at Bow Street on August 16 for failing to send to the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies a statement showing the position of the liquidation of the company. This was the first case in which a summons has been taken out to recover fines under Section 15, Subsection 2, of the Companies Winding-up Act, 1890, because it had been decided that summary proceedings did not lie under that Act. The prosecution, however, contend that Section 32 of the Companies Act of 1900 enables them to recover summarily, as it provides that the Act shall take effect as part of the Companies Act of 1872. This, counsel urged, brought in Section 62 of the latter Act, which states that "all offences under this Act may be prosecuted summarily." The decision quoted above by Sir Franklin Lushington was before the Act of 1900—namely, in May, 1892. Mr. de Rutzen reserved his decision.

High Court Case.

TRADE-MARK ACTION.

IN the Vacation Court on August 21, before Mr. Justice Joyce, Mr. Hamilton, K.C., moved in the case of Price's Patent Candle Company (Limited) v. Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds (Limited) for an injunction to restrain the defendants, until judgment or further order, from infringing the plaintiffs' trade-marks, and from using the design of a ship upon any poster, advertisement, or showcard in connection with the sale of any soap not of the plaintiffs' manufacture. Mr. Hamilton said the plaintiffs carried on a very large business, and they used in connection with all the goods manufactured and sold by them the device of a ship in full sail.

Mr. Justice Joyce: What is the defence?

Mr. Alexander, K.C. (for the defendants), said his clients denied both infringement and passing off.

Mr. Justice Joyce: This does not sound like a vacation case.

Mr. Hamilton: It is important that we should act promptly when we discovered what was being done. What we really complain of in this case is a poster.

The poster, which was then unfurled for the inspection of his Lordship, displayed the device of a ship of somewhat ancient construction, and bearing upon the spreading sail a large red cross. The poster bore in large letters the words "Ten Royal Warrants for disinfectants. Jeyes' fluid, powder, soaps."

His Lordship having looked at the register of trade-marks and the defendants' poster, said it seemed to him there was a serious question to be tried, though, looking at the placard, his present impression was rather unfavourable to the plaintiffs. He thought this was a case which ought to stand till the trial, and it would accordingly stand over until the second motion day next sittings.

County Court Case.

THE ACTION OF ACETANILID.

AT Ulverston County Court on August 16, Willie Shillitoe, a plater, and his wife, residing in Sunderland Terrace, Ulverston, sought to recover 50*l.* damages, as compensation for the illness of Mrs. Shillitoe, alleged to have been caused by taking a headache-powder purchased from the defendant, Mr. W. B. Hird, who keeps a small grocer's shop in Ulverston. Solicitor for plaintiff said Mr. Hird was merely a nominal defendant, the real defendant, in his opinion, being Mr. Jno. Proctor, wholesale druggist, of Back Lane, Preston, who supplied the powders in question to a large number of grocers and other small shopkeepers. They are described on the packets as "Proctor's headache-powders. One to be taken every four hours in a teaspoonful of milk or water." A fortnight after her confinement Mrs. Shillitoe was suffering from headache, and procured two of Proctor's headache-powders from Mr. Hird. After taking one of the powders she became seriously ill, and Dr. Bowman, who was called in, immediately realised the serious nature of the case, he having attended in January last a case where a boy died after taking half of a powder

containing the same drug—namely, antifebrin or acetanilid. Six of the powders were obtained from the defendant, and on analysis it was found that they contained from $6\frac{1}{2}$ gr. to $7\frac{3}{4}$ gr., whereas the B.P. dose is from 1 gr. to 3 gr. only. A nurse having testified to the purchase and alarming effects of the powders, Dr. Bowman deposed to finding Mrs. Shillitoe in a state of collapse and nervous tension marked by convulsions. These were symptoms compatible with poisoning by certain drugs, and he was convinced from what he was told that she was suffering from the action of the powder. Antifebrin should only be given in small doses—a grain or two at the outside. Mrs. Shillitoe was in an extremely critical condition, and he had to attend her another week for the illness. Antifebrin did not come under the Poisons Act, but was a poison all the same, and was sometimes very rapid in its action. Mrs. Shillitoe said she had previously taken the powders without ill-effect.

For the defence Dr. Anderson, of Ulverston, stated that, judging from Mrs. Shillitoe's general appearance, she was anæmic and of a highly nervous temperament, and also from the symptoms described he was strongly of opinion that her illness was due not to the action of the powder, but to hystero-epilepsy, or a predisposition thereto. If she had been poisoned by the drug he considered there would have been an almost immediate effect, instead of a delayed action for six hours. He agreed that the drug was a poison, but under medical supervision he did not think from 4 gr. to 16 gr. would be too large a dose. He did not think, however, that it should be sold in the way described.

In summing up Judge Stevenson said the law was that any person who negligently and unskilfully sold a drug which seriously injured another person would be liable in such an action as that. As to the facts, he particularly relied on the evidence of Dr. Bowman, because, having attended the case, he was admittedly in a much better position to give a more correct opinion than an outside practitioner. He gave judgment for the complainant for twenty guineas and costs.

The Dentists Act.

A COMPANY QUESTION.

AT Bow Street on August 21, Mrs. Helena Georgina Paget was summoned for falsely representing herself as a registered or qualified surgeon-dentist. Mr. R. W. Turner, in support of the summons, explained that two brothers—Mr. Harry Eskell Paget and Mr. Edward Eskell Paget—married two sisters, and were in partnership till 1896, when the business was turned into a limited company. Mr. Edward Eskell Paget retired from the firm, and covenanted not to practise under any style or title within half a mile of a certain address. He then went to South Africa, but returned recently and started in business at 151 Strand, within the prescribed area. An interim injunction was obtained restraining him from practising, since which his wife (the defendant) had carried on the business under the style of the Eskell-Paget Dental Company. Defendant was thus, it was alleged, by implication representing herself to be a registered dentist.

Mr. Drury, for the defence, contended that his client had not specifically represented herself as a registered or qualified dentist. She was merely the proprietor of a business carried on under the style of a company, but she did not herself pretend to practise as a dentist, and, as a matter of fact, all dental operations in connection with the business were performed by duly qualified employes. The defendant was in the same position as limited liability companies carrying on dental business, such companies having been declared by the highest legal authority not to come within the scope of the Act, as they were ineligible for registration or qualification.

Mrs. Paget gave evidence that although she conducted the business and took the profits, she employed fully qualified dentists to do the actual work.

Mr. Marsham said he thought the advertisements, door-plate, &c., of the defendant were calculated to produce the impression that the business was being carried on by a registered and duly qualified person. He intended, therefore, to convict the defendant, but was quite willing to state a case.

Mr. Drury: I must certainly ask you to do that, for I contend that this lady has done nothing to imply—as she

must do to make herself liable under the Act—that she personally is a registered dentist.

Mr. Marsham: She admits being the owner of the business.

Mr. Drury: Yes; and is therefore in exactly the same position as the limited liability companies, which have been held to be outside the scope of the Act.

Mr. Marsham: Well, I am against you; but I will certainly grant you a case, as it is eminently a question for the decision of the superior Courts. Meanwhile, there will be a penalty of 5*l.* and 3*l.* 3*s.* costs. If the defendant should be ultimately advised not to take up the case which I have offered to state, I will entertain an application to reduce the costs to 2*s.*

Deeds of Arrangement.

Granger, Robert Fawcett, Bank House, Bridge Street, Whitby, physician and surgeon. Trustee, Ringrose Walldby Duggleby, Whitby, accountant. Dated, August 16; filed, August 19. Liabilities unsecured, 263*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*; estimated net assets, 430*l.* Assignment upon trust, &c. (except goodwill of practice, instruments, &c.) The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s	d.
Herbert, T. E., Whitby	14	0	0
Marsay, H., Whitby... ..	15	0	0
Nicholson & Son, Whitby	22	0	0
Rowntree & Son, Scarborough	13	0	0
Wilson, M., Whitby... ..	14	0	0

Mallett, Thomas John, 43 High Street, Leighton Buzzard, chemist and druggist. Trustee, Wm. H. Goodwin, 24 Coleman Street, London, E.C., chartered accountant. Dated, August 14; filed, August 17. Liabilities unsecured, 84*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*; estimated net assets, 30*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s	d.
Barron, Harveys & Co., London	25	0	0
Burgoyne, Burdidges & Co., London	14	0	0
Idris & Co. (Limited), London	11	0	0
Pettit, H., Leighton Buzzard (rent)	15	0	0

Gazette.

Partnership Dissolved.

Johnson, S., M.D. (deceased), **Johnson, J. A.**, and **Southwell, C. E.**, under the style of Johnson & Southwell, Stoke-upon-Trent, and Hartshill, Staffordshire, surgeons, apothecaries, and accoucheurs.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Bonner, John Edmund, Birmingham, mineral-water manufacturer.

Shaw, Harold Ernest, Kingston-upon-Hull, druggist and sub-postmaster.

From the "Edinburgh Gazette."

EXAMINATION.

McLean, Alexander, carrying on business under the name or style of the Springfield Mineral-water Company, High Blantyre, aerated-water manufacturer. To be examined in the Sheriff Court-house, County Buildings, Hamilton, August 26, at 11 o'clock. Creditors will meet in the chambers of Mr. T. Kelly, 150 Hope Street, Glasgow, September 6, at 12 o'clock.

New Companies & Company News.

MANCHESTER SUPER-AERATION (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (2,500 preference). Objects: To acquire the benefit, within an area including Manchester, of a licence from Super-Aeration (Limited), and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in aerated and mineral waters, bottles, syphons, soda-water machines, gasogenes, cylinders, &c. Registered office, 4 South Street, Manchester.

JOHN DUTTON (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of aerated and mineral water manufacturers, compounders of British and other cordials, and ale, stout, and general bottlers now carried on by William Dutton and Thomas Dutton, at Hastings Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, under the style of "John Dutton." Registered office, Hastings Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester.

ROBERT ROPER, SON & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement between Annie Liversidge of the one part, and P. Hall (for the company) of the other part, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in explosives, mining-tools, &c., colliery-stores and patent medicines, veterinary compounds and drugs of all kinds. H. G. Liversidge is the first governing director. Registered office, South Street Park, Sheffield, Yorks.

DR. BROWE (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture and deal in (wholesale and retail) chemical specialities, essences, scents, sweetmeats, unguents, emollients, hair-washes, hair-dyes, hair-restorers, proprietary and other medicines, baking-powder, custard-powder, soap, and other domestic specialities, &c. The first subscribers are:—G. Wroe, 35 Lowerhead Row, Leeds, confectioner; R. Turner, 35 Lowerhead Row, Leeds, bookkeeper; A. Driver, 35 Lowerhead Row, Leeds, traveller; J. Errington, 115 Harehill's Road, Leeds, confectioner; F. S. Brier, Endon Works, Hunslet, Leeds, manufacturer; H. T. Bumby, 25 Holland Street, Leeds, warehouseman; and J. W. Clarke, 19 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, traveller.

J. H. LEWIS (LIMITED).—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on at 265 Finchley Road, London, by J. H. Lewis, and to carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists, druggists, drysalers, oil and colour men, manufacturers of and dealers in photographic, surgical, and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—A. Keeman, 305 Hoe Street, Walthamstow, clerk; A. E. Swannell, 313 Holmesdale Road, South Norwood, clerk; T. W. Doran, 48 Trinity Road, Wood Green, N., clerk; A. J. Hall, Lewes House, Bromley, Kent, solicitor; G. Linder, 91 Maysoule Road, S.W., clerk; F. T. Trounson, Elvedon, Langham Road, Teddington, clerk; and G. L. Patten, 34 Sydenham Road, Sydenham, solicitor. No initial public issue. The number of directors is not to be less than two nor more than three; the first are J. H. Lewis and J. K. Matterson; qualification, 1,000*l.*; remuneration as fixed by the company.

BOOTS CASH CHEMISTS (EASTERN) (LIMITED).—The directors announce a quarterly dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares. In connection with the Boots companies the usual quarterly dividends on the following will be posted on August 30 to proprietors registered on September 2:—Boots Pure Drug Co.—Preference shares; Boots Cash Chemists (Eastern), 6 per cent. preference shares and ordinary shares (12 per cent. per annum); Boots (Western), 6 per cent. preference shares; Boots (Lancashire), 6 per cent. preference shares; Boots (Southern), 6 per cent. preference shares. The transfer-books will be closed from September 2 to September 7, inclusive.

DAISY (LIMITED).—A new issue of 4,000 preference shares in this company is now offered for subscription, the minimum subscription on which the directors will proceed to allotment being 1,000*l.* The company was formed in 1893, with a capital of 10,000*l.*, in shares of 5*l.* each. In 1899 the nominal capital was increased to 20,000*l.* by the creation of 10,000 *l.* cumulative preference shares. Further capital is required (and sought for in the present issue) to provide for the contemplated introduction of other specialities, for the extension of "Babbs," and to complete the alterations on the Marshalls Mills estate, at Holbeck, Leeds, acquired by the company in 1899. All the ordinary shares held by the late Mr. Ellis, founder of the business, are now held by his widow. The average annual profits of the company for the two and a half years ended April 30, have been 1,405*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Mr. T. K. Diggle, chemist and druggist, will be managing director of the company for the next seven years, at a salary of 150*l.* per annum. Full particulars of the issue will be found in our advertisement columns.

COMMERCIAL ALBUMEN COMPANY (LIMITED).—Meetings of the creditors and shareholders of this company, against which a winding-up order was made on July 24, were held on August 19. The company was registered on November 11, 1898, to acquire Mr. P. G. Sandford's patent rights for improvements in the treatment of albuminous matters and tanning-liquids, and proceeded to develop the patent process

according to the vendor's ideas, the business being carried on in Ghent. The directors stated that, although the process was chemically and theoretically correct, it was found, when production on a large scale was essayed, to be in many ways unworkable. The company had manufactured a certain quantity of albumen paste, and had effected sales to the extent of over 200%, the value of the stock now in hand being about 400%. So far as the facts were known to the Official Receiver, the company appeared to have made an effort to develop the patents, and the directors were still of opinion that if further capital could be obtained the business might prove a commercial success. The liabilities were small, and if the patents were as valuable as they were represented to be there ought not to be any difficulty in finding the money to put the company on its legs again. It was decided that the matter remain in the hands of the Official Receiver as liquidator.

GRAPE-VINEGAR COMPANY (LIMITED).—A winding-up order having been made against this company, the usual meetings of creditors and shareholders were held on August 19 at the Board of Trade offices, Carey Street, W.C. The chairman stated that the Official Receiver's investigation into the affairs of the company was incomplete, owing to the absence of a statement of affairs and to the fact that most of the company's books, including the bought ledger, the register of members, and the minute-book, had been lost. It appeared that the company was registered on October 14, 1898, its main objects being to manufacture by special processes vinegar, sauces, bitters, chutnee, &c., to deal in or sell such articles, and to carry on the business of brewers. The nominal capital of the company was 20,000*l.*, divided into 5,000 preference and 15,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each. No balance-sheets were circulated by the company, but monthly statements were laid before the board, which invariably showed that the business was conducted at a loss. The processes acquired by the company were utilised, but owing to competition it was found necessary to extend the scope of the trade. Accordingly a fluid beef was manufactured, and machinery for beer-bottling was erected. The whole of the company's property was sold in November, 1900, for 3,000*l.* From figures supplied to the Official Receiver it appeared that the unsecured liabilities amounted to 3,000*l.*, against which there were no assets, and the deficiency as regarded both creditors and shareholders was estimated at 17,700*l.* In the Official Receiver's opinion inquiry would have to be made whether or not certain of the directors were liable for shares received by them from the vendor, and whether or not the prospectus contained a proper disclosure of their interest in the sale to the company. The shareholders resolved that the matter should remain in the hands of the Official Receiver as liquidator.

Tab.

DURING 1900 the United Kingdom shipped drugs and chemicals to Paraguay valued at 13,364*l.*

STERILISED KIESELGUHR made into a stiff paste with glycerin is suggested as a substitute for a bread poultice.

OF "chemicals, medicines, and perfumery" Naples imported 214,352*l.* worth in 1900, against 155,717*l.* worth in 1899.

THE great German industry in chemicals, which for years was exceedingly prosperous, is now beginning to complain of lack of orders and poor prices, says the American Consul at Bremen.

STAR-ANISEED OIL.—The exportation of oil of star-anise from Tonkin during 1900 amounted to 45,467 kilos., valued by the Customs authorities at 752,000*fr.* France received the whole of this, and the figures constitute a record. The two previous years showed a very poor yield.

THE imports of drugs and medicines into Cephalaria (Greece) during 1900 amounted in value to 1,100*l.*, against 950*l.* in 1899; other imports were sulphate of copper 250*l.* against 130*l.*; soda ash 80*l.* against 85*l.*; soap and perfumes 2,200*l.* against 1,400*l.*; and sulphur 5,500*l.* against 6,400*l.*

At the Counter.

"CONVENIENT TURPENTINE" is one of the things that Mr. Wilson, of Stowmarket, was asked for recently. His erudition and stock were equal to the occasion.

FROM FOREIGN CLIMES.—The English of the Babu is a fruitful and never-ending source of enjoyment to the Britisher in India. The following letter from a railway employé at Namakkal to Messrs. Smith & Co., chemists, Madras, is quaint:—

SIR,—One day I was eating sugar-cane. Then I felt pain in one of my teeth. Since that time it is shaking. Before that, I had eaten sugar-cane, but I had not felt either such a kind of pain or shaking. My age is about 23 or 24. So I fear that it will not grow if it falls. I think it has not fallen yet. It is also said by my parents that the tooth had grown when I was born. I request, therefore, to let me know what kind of medicine will cure that bloody shaking, and the price of it. Other teeth are all right. Blood also is coming from the tooth. If you cure that I will not forget the name "Smith & Co." even after my death.

The following received by Messrs. Curtis & Co., chemists, Mandalay, from an up-country Government assistant-engineer (English), is a good sample of laconic official humour. The letter was written on the regulation order-form, stamped, numbered, indexed, and endorsed:—

SIR,—In returning the oxalic acid forwarded by the storekeeper, I have the honour to point out that a good proportion of the crystals appear to have been deposited by rats. This supposition is very strongly confirmed by the smell.

Our correspondent sent it to us with the hope that *C. & D.* readers might be interested to know that the rats of Burma were chemical-manufacturers. A correspondent in the United States considers rather original, "1½ oz. sania buba" when simaruba bark was intended, and a written order saying: "Plies 10 cents bloeum boetter," is ingenious if not uncommon.

A MISCELLANEOUS BUDGET.—The twelve-months' collection of written requests sent by Mr. E. R. Cherrett, of Monkwearmouth, contains some choice specimens of orthography. On the back of an illustrated Sunday school text is a request for "Cramy for the face." Embrocations are represented by "Olive Oyel and turbentine," "Harthon and swt oil," "oil of owls and spirit of hartshorn," and "upper Dile Dock." Amongst the ointments we find "Parmer city," "yellow persinkin," "yellow persinshent," "mash maller" and "Nalsh mallos." Godfrey's cordial is a sore tax on the orthographic abilities of Tyne-side customers as well as those in Commercial Road, E. Three variants are "Grogerie Cordial," "God for Cordial" (reminding one of a battle-cry), and "decoffrisothyl." Cochia Pills are rendered "Philiacausa," "Pillow Coccoah," "Pillicoachia," and "Pollowicoca" respectively by four inquirers; and paregoric becomes "padiegorick," "parogic" and "parracrot," according to the fancy of the manipulators. Our old friend ipecacuanha wire only occurs twice, singularly enough, as "Impuicaimye wine" and "Hipuannwine." "Persiped," "Iryhpyckeria," "Pennerial," "penerile," "scioch boracks," "superqnils," "as-aphizity pills," and "affectionate of sena" are not hard to decipher, in spite of their classical appearance. "Envious seed" and "In Bean Sead" are the same article, while "Female collodine" may be a feminine variety of the ordinary flexile application. "Sulsolisic of soda," "per-ranguate of Pot. Ass," "Sweet niture and balsam of pippie," are obvious, but "Lextrol Frictiol and rough salts" is slightly more complicated. Perhaps the most pleasantly phonetic of the batch are "Yellow Oca," "Claret or lime," "Wine of coulsocombe," "Guehackam," and "Youralega" powder. The latter in particular is an absolutely faithful phonetic reproduction of the word as pronounced by many folks of the Pre-School Board period. There may be perhaps more than meets the eye in the request of one for "the penny genius roots." We have often heard of the "budding genius," but should like to examine the roots. "Ephil of mineral" is learned-looking, and "tincture nackerume" puzzling, but "diacklime for a wuman's brest," "Carblocky fluid for the hair," and "infants' restorer the test" are no more trouble to the experienced pharmacist than the making of a pill-mass. "Buntsee Hannah" (a striking title for a novel) was supplied recently by the Eton Drug Company of Cardiff.

Liquor Ferri Albuminati.

By A PRACTICAL PHARMACIST.

THE preparation of this liquor presents certain difficulties to the pharmacist. Several formulæ have been proposed for it, but the one which is probably most generally adopted is that by Dieterich, which is published in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" in the following manner:—

Dialysed iron...	...	...	12 oz.
Distilled water 50° C.	...	...	400 oz.

Mix.

Then make a solution of—

Dried egg albumen ...	...	...	3 oz.
Distilled water ...	...	...	400 oz.

Warm to 50° C. and pour into the iron solution, constantly stirring. Neutralise the mixture with solution of soda, collect the precipitate on cotton twill, and wash until free from chloride (as judged by the wash-water giving no precipitate with silver-nitrate solution). Drain the precipitate, transfer it to a tared gallon bottle, and add—

Solution of soda, sp. gr. 1.17	½ oz.
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Shake or stir well until solution is complete, then add—

Rectified spirit	15 oz.
Cinnamon-water ...	...	...	10 oz.
Aromatic tincture ...	...	...	2 dr.

—previously mixed. Finally add distilled water to bring up the weight to 100 oz.

It will be seen at once that to make even this quantity a capacious jar will be needed. Having dissolved and mixed the solution of albumen with the iron, it is necessary to so exactly neutralise the mixed liquors with solution of soda (diluted as directed) that no iron shall remain in the supernatant liquor. It will be found on testing the mixed liquor with litmus that it is to all appearances neutral, but this is not so, because litmus-paper appears to be useless as an indicator in this preparation. The best indication of neutrality is the formation of a voluminous precipitate, and to obtain the maximum amount of precipitate requires a little care and systematic treatment. The soda solution should not be added to the bulk of the liquor, for there is a danger of adding slightly too much alkali, which will lead to more fiddling with acid and alkali than is desirable, and will waste much time, for the precipitate does not come down well when this occurs, rendering the subsequent washing and straining very tedious.

The best method to adopt is as follows:—Having thoroughly mixed the albumen solution with the iron, draw off exactly 1 pint of the liquor; fill a graduated syringe holding about 30 minims (such as is commonly used for measuring hydrocyanic acid) with the alkaline solution, and add the latter drop by drop to the reserved pint, stirring continuously until a bulky precipitate, resembling ferric hydrate in appearance, is formed. Allow this precipitate to settle, when, if the operation has been correctly performed, the supernatant liquor will be quite clear and free from colour. If the supernatant liquor be not colourless, add one more drop of alkali, stir well, and allow it to settle again; any undue haste in performing this will cause trouble later on. The albuminate of iron being all precipitated from one pint, a very simple calculation will enable one to discover the amount of alkali required to neutralise the bulk. Measure this quantity exactly and add it to the bulk, stirring rapidly and continuously; allow the precipitate to settle, and syphon off the supernatant liquor. Wash with three more lots of distilled water at 50°, when the wash-liquor will be found free from chlorides; collect the precipitate either on linen or in a flannel bag—the latter for preference, as the liquor drains away more freely—transfer the precipitate to a tared bottle, and dissolve as directed. Before adding the solution of soda to dissolve the precipitate have the correct weight of the mixture of cinnamon-water at hand, and directly the precipitate is dissolved add the spirituous liquor and shake well. If this precaution be not taken, it will be found that the alkali changes the precipitate into an apparently insoluble jelly in the very short space of time required

to mix the cinnamon-water with the spirit. If by any chance this jelly should be formed, stand the bottle, after adding the spirit and water, in warm water until the contents have attained a temperature of 50° C., when the jelly will dissolve; but if the precaution be taken which I have indicated the pharmacist will be saved this trouble.

Veterinary Note.

By M.R.C.V.S.

THRUSH IN HORSES

is commonly prescribed for over the counter, as if it were always due to the same cause and in need of the same treatment, but it is not so. The foetid discharge associated with thrush may be produced by constant standing in manure and pools of urine, on badly-drained floors, and be nothing more than decomposition of the softest and spongiest portion of the insensitive foot, or it may be due to atrophy of the inner or under sensitive frog, from which the outer is secreted from mushroom-like papillæ.

The absence of natural frog pressure, such as an unshod horse receives from the ground, induces feebleness of secretion, and immature horn is produced, which rapidly decomposes, releasing an amount of H₂S, which every horseman recognises by his nose. In still another form of thrush there is not atrophy and broken-up cells, but a profuse growth of fungiform bodies, which need powerful caustics to keep them in check.

It is well, before prescribing for thrush, to inquire as to the extent and duration of the malady. A recent case may be cured with no severer remedy than tar and salt, while an old-standing one, bordering on the canker-stage, will need liq. antim. chlor. or chloride of zinc, so much favoured by old-fashioned practitioners. The latter remedies are much too drying in their action for simple cases of thrush; they shrink away the frog and cause the quarters to fall in, and contracted foot results in large measure from such misapplied agents. If calomel were not so expensive one might recommend it, for truly nothing answers so well. A very good combination for ordinary cases is a 7-per-cent. solution of zinc chlor. in liquor aloes. The sulphates of copper and zinc are good for thrush, but prescribers will best serve their clients by making inquiries and distinguishing between the soft cankerous mass requiring a powerful escharotic and the mild discharge of a recent case. With some animals it is constitutional, and acts as an issue. If dried up too quickly, inflammatory swelling of the leg, or else laminitis, follows. These indications serve to remind us that internal remedies may, after all, serve better than outward applications. An alterative ball, in which a drachm. or so of Barbados aloes should form a part, together with the prescriber's favourite diuretic, may be prescribed. The following is a suitable formula, and may be safely recommended as a general diuretic and for swelled legs:—

Aloes barb.	...	...	...	...	3iss.
Tereb. ven.	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. zingib.	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Saponis duri	...	...	...	...	3iv.

M. Fiat bolus, bis vel ter in hebdomada.

With thrush, as with foot-rot in sheep, much depends on the manner in which the remedy is applied; and the directions on the label of a thrush-dressing should explicitly state that the decayed portions must be trimmed away, in order to get the benefit of the application. It is well, also, to have it used upon a pledget of tow, pushed into the cleft and sides of the frog, or maintained in contact by strips of wood wedged under the shoe.

A VETERINARY SURGEON'S OPINION of "Veterinary Counter-practice":—"The most abused, most used, and most useful work published in this generation." So "M.R.C.V.S." informs us. He says: "It is quite true. Abused by the narrow members of the profession, used by students and in every veterinary pharmacy, and most useful to chemists and stock-owners."



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Council Gag.

SIR,—Mr. Glyn-Jones's letter is an eye-opener to the supporters of the Society, and will cause either a large diminution of membership or new Council members at the next election. I take it the Council (or its solicitor) made an extraordinary mistake in prosecuting Mr. Reece, and saw it when too late. The Council's present position is illogical and impossible, and one of two courses must be taken—either Mr. Reece must be indemnified or similar action be taken against others who offend against this section, beginning, of course, with the offending members of the Council. To my mind the "gagging" of Mr. Jones is nothing less than outrageous, and I am convinced that if the general policy of the Council partakes of the nature of Mr. Reece's case, and the rules such as Mr. Jones has to complain of, the Pharmaceutical Society will soon be a wreck.

Yours truly,
M.P.S. (DERBYSHIRE). (240/44.)

SIR,—One can hardly describe the astonishment which will be caused by the production at last, through the columns of the *C. & D.*, of the so-called improper motion moved by Mr. Glyn-Jones.

Well may Mr. Glyn-Jones appeal to the trade in general when such cliques are formed to suppress justice and purity in a governing body, and to choke any attempt to rectify such gross irregularity and misuse of powers held in trust.

To the mind of lay members the idea must occur that the so-called Council of the Society is but a farce upheld for the benefit of the few to whom has been given the power of saying one thing when the election is pending, and then when elected to serenely ignore their blatant and hypocritical utterances as to doing their best endeavours for the good of the trade in general.

We are all indebted to the strong-minded policy of Mr. Glyn-Jones for exposing the plague-spot, even at this late date.

Can no steps be taken to secure the enforcement of justice, or shall the seat of government of our trade or profession be usurped by such Pharisees, who think themselves so far above everyone else as to forget that they are elected members of the Council by their fellow-chemists, and are not there by Divine right—as they seem to fancy?

I venture to say that never was there a more glaring instance of breach of trust than this attempt to suppress Mr. Glyn-Jones's motion.

I think the so-called official party should be told, and that in no measured terms, that resignation is the only possible way for them after their prostitution of constitutional powers to the securing of personal safety.

Yours faithfully,
LINIMENT. (240,54.)

Professor v. Craftsman.

SIR,—It is strange that so sensible a man as Mr. James Reid should be under bondage to the fear of being called a craftsman—that is to say, a skilled workman—than which, I should have said, few titles are more honourable. The word has, perhaps, degenerated somewhat in meaning since Chaucer spoke of those who after their "craft" do great diligence unto the cure of them that they have in their governance, and (to quote him literally) of

Craftsman,
That geometry or arismetrike can;

but surely the rehabilitation of a term anciently so honourable is an ambition worthy even of the latest creature of

Bloomsbury Square. Certainly it is a more accurate term, as applied to him, than the ambiguous and almost meaningless "Professor" which Mr. Reid appears to desire. There are so many sorts of professors. Are we to rank with Professor Huxley or Professor Holloway? One has heard of professing Christians who were practising attorneys, and I am afraid the public will see a more apparent—as there is certainly a more real—incongruity between the "profession" of pharmacy and the practice of pill-driving. When all is said, the pharmacist, if he is worth his salt, does "work with his hands" no less than the craftsman. So, however, does the artist, to whom the true craftsman is cousin-german.

Yours, &c.,
C. C. BELL.

Medical Subsidies.

SIR,—"Xrayser," in his "Observations and Reflections," in commenting on my paper read at the Federation meeting in Dublin, puts this query, "Mr. Paterson says medical men get large subsidies from the Government. How?"

My answer is that the medical students in the Scotch universities derive very considerable benefit from the 72,000*l.* annually given by Government to the universities, and in which they constitute the larger number of students. And when it comes to enlargement and better equipment Government give large subsidies. In the case of the university here they gave 40,000*l.*, almost the whole of it being spent on the medical school. Further, in regard to the other classes mentioned in my paper, the Government give an annual grant for agricultural education, which here is carried on in the university, and the Town Council and County Council give donations for this purpose out of the local taxation account moneys allotted to them. It pays all the office expenses and upkeep of the local Marine Boards, and provides examiners for the sailors and marine engineers free.

I do not see why pharmacy should not derive benefit also from this source. I said in my paper, "We receive nothing because we have not asserted ourselves by putting forward our case," and the object of writing it was to try and remedy the effacement of ourselves. The writer goes on to remark upon my claim for help from the Society; he says, "So long as the Pharmaceutical Society has money to spare, the expenditure of some of it on a model school seems legitimate and wise." I commend to his perusal this extract from a leading article in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of May 4:—"The school cost the Society about 1,200*l.*, but we are not told in the report how many students were efficiently taught in it, and that is a needful factor as to judging whether it is necessary or not for the Society to support an educational establishment now that so many facilities for thorough education are provided throughout the country. Perhaps the money might be more usefully devoted in helping pharmacy departments in university colleges throughout the country." The money taken for the upkeep of the school is chiefly derived from the examination-fees of students, who do not and cannot derive any benefit from it, and it does not seem fair that the Society should do nothing for provincial education.

Aberdeen, August 20.

JAMES PATERSON.

Anointing-oil.

SIR,—In connection with the interesting application of Godfrey & Cooke for permission to supply the anointing-oil at the coronation of George IV., which you reproduced in the *C. & D.* of last week (page 313), no hint is given as to the composition of the oil. "The oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary," for which a formula appears in Exodus xxx. v. 23-5, was, I take it, a perfumed oil; the myrrh, sweet cinnamon, sweet calamus, and cassia may probably have been macerated in the oil, and the oil strained off after a time. The Greek emperors seem also to have been anointed with a thick perfumed oil, or perhaps a natural balsam. In Taylor's "Glory of Regality" (1820), a book which gives the forms and ceremonies used at the coronation of the English kings and queens, it is stated (page 352):—

Of the unction which is used for our English kings of the present age little need be said; it is prepared from the purest olive oil, and is of course set apart for the purpose to which it is

designed, with suitable acts of reverential solemnity. The formulary of its consecration hath not, I believe, been publisht.

I find, too, that formerly the anointing, which is now, I believe, confined to the head of the sovereign, was done on other parts of the body—the chest, arms, back, and forehead—but the inconvenience of the practice doubtless led to its restriction.

Very faithfully,

LANATUS. (91/19)

Divisional Secretaries.

SIR,—Even were it possible for local secretaries to find the time to undertake the large amount of work suggested by "One of the Crowd," the idea is far too radical ever to be adopted by the Pharmaceutical Society. The Society seem already to be doing something in this way, for a short time since a representative of the Society appeared outside our business premises, and stood like "Mr. Micawber" evidently "waiting for something to turn up." The something presently turned up in the shape of our errand-boy, who was asked the manager's name. With this valuable information the said representative disappeared. A few days afterwards I was astonished to receive a communication from the Registrar informing me that my name did not appear on the register, and requesting payment of penalties, costs, &c. On pointing out that I had held the Major qualification for some years, I received an apology alleging in excuse that the shop not being my registered address, and not having obtained my Christian name, they could not reasonably be expected to connect me with the gentleman of the same name upon the register. I would suggest, in the interests of the trade, the Society throw up their charter and leave it to the Privy Council to make fresh regulations. We might then have a reasonable prospect of getting some sort of State protection, and the position of ourselves and the companies definitely settled. We could not then have one law for the members of the Council and one for the rank and file.

Yours faithfully,

A PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST. (241/29)

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

190/47. *T. H.*—Acne-ointment.—The sample you send is nearly all calamine, and is made by massing calamine with lard. If the same colour is required, and your calamine is not dark enough, add a little Venetian red.

191/48. *X. L.*—The Syringing-powder is zinc sulphate.

222/52. *Laundry.*—Glazing-paste like your sample seems to be coming into use for linen-glazing. It is prepared by dissolving soap in water, and, whilst cooling, stirring in powdered French chalk. We have not determined the quantity of soap, but you can easily adjust the solution so that it sets on cooling. To begin with, try 3 oz. of cut-up yellow soap to 1 pint of boiling water.

213/16.—*White.*—Eczema-ointment.—Your sample would be imitated by a mixture of—

Ichthyol ...	...	...	...	5j.
Paraff. moll. ...	...	...	...	3j.
Ung. resinæ ...	...	...	...	3j.

M.

216/73. *Gael.*—Dandruff-lotion.—Many formulas for this are given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" (page 88) and past volumes of the *C. & D.*

218/38. *W. S. B.*—We are not acquainted with the process of manufacture of aluminium aceto-tartrate.

212/115. *X. Y. Z.* and (197/43) *Verax.*—To Drive away Ants, one of the cheapest and best things to use is a solution of crude carbolic acid (3 oz. in 1 gal. of water). Paraffin, turpentine, naphthalin, and solution of sulphurated

potash have also been recommended, but the strong smell of the remedies is objectionable. Another suggestion is to sprinkle powdered cloves about the ants' haunts, whilst the following Ant-poison is said to be effectual:—

Cape aloes	1 lb.
Water	1 gal.

Boil together and mix with—

Camphor-flowers	6 oz.
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212/69. *Flics.*—The only other remedy for the Plague of Flies in the fishmonger's window we can suggest is to stand a vessel of formalin in the window.

198/55. *Hirudo.*—The following are the chief precautions needed in Leech-keeping:—The water in which the leeches are kept should not be changed too often—once in six weeks is sufficient unless the water is discoloured by blood. In changing the water avoid having the clean and old water at different temperatures, and do not touch the leeches with the hands. A few iron nails in the water have been found advantageous, as well as a few plants of valisneria. The bottom of the leech-jar should be covered with a mixture of sand and small stones.

234/33. *Apprentice.*—The fact that you passed the Preliminary examination of the Pharmaceutical Society is duly registered—no certificate of passing that examination is issued. There is no necessity to become a student-associate of the Society before going in for the Minor.

236/24. *F. J.*—(1) The Educational number of the *C. & D.*, to be published on September 7, will give the particulars as to the steps to take to become an analytical chemist. (2) Most things are possible to those who try.

230/70. *Brevity.* (234/64) *Bromo.*—We do not make trade-mark searches. One way of finding out whether a name is already appropriated is to make application on the 5s. form (see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 227), when the Comptroller will inform you whether he can accept the mark.

12/4. *A. S.*—We do not know the formulas for Cerebos salt or Lea & Perrin's sauce.

236/69. *A. B.*—Honey-and-butter Toffy:—

Brown sugar ...	...	...	...	1½ lb.
Honey ...	...	...	...	¼ lb.
Butter ...	...	...	...	4 oz.
Lemon-juice ...	...	...	...	1 oz.

Heat in an enamelled saucepan until a little of it cooled in water breaks with a crisp fracture, then pour into well-greased moulds.

236/17. *Kemble.*—A Colonial Qualification as a chemist is not at present a legal qualification in Great Britain. Perhaps in the distant future it will dawn on the Legislature that a chemist certified as fit to sell poison in one part of the Empire is equally qualified to do the same work in another part.

238/53. *S. R. W.*—The Pharmacy Act applies to the sale of scheduled poisons by retail, no matter for what purpose, with the single exception of certain preparations of carbolic acid, which are allowed to be sold for certain purposes by unqualified persons.

237/60. *Ting.*—We do not publish formulas for imitating proprietary articles.

239/66. *Balaustra.*—Obtaining Situation Abroad.—The only method you can adopt is to advertise in the Coloured Supplement of the *C. & D.*, and answer any advertisements which appear likely to suit you.

239/64. *E. J. G.*—The note on making gold chloride is on page 886 of the last volume of the *C. & D.*

280/4. *J. W. D.*—Assistants' Holiday.—There is an unwritten rule that assistants engaged after the beginning of the year are not entitled to a holiday that year, but wise masters find it pays to treat assistants liberally in the way of the annual holiday.

233/23. *W. W.*—The School of Pharmacy of the Pharmaceutical Society in the W.O. district is the nearest to you. Particulars of all the London schools will be given in the *C. & D.*, September 7.

232/59. *R. J. W.*—Cough-mixture not containing scheduled poison:—

Vin. ipecac. ...	...	...	...	3i.
Oxy. scillae ...	...	...	...	3iiss.
Tr. cubebæ ...	...	...	...	3vj.
Ext. glycyrrh. liq. ...	...	...	...	3ij.
Glycerini ...	...	...	...	3iv.
Ol. anisi ...	...	...	...	℥xv.
Ol. menth. pip. ...	...	...	...	℥xv.
Aque ad ...	...	...	...	Oj.

Dose: a teaspoonful two or three times a day or when the cough is troublesome.

231/19. *Cyanide*.—Gold-assaying.—Perhaps the classes at the Polytechnic, Regent Street, W., would suit you. Write to the Secretary for particulars.

233/51. *Rev.*—Lemon Cheese Curd, as usually made, does not require any preservative beyond the sugar which is used in the process. What formula do you use?

239/7. *Boticario*.—The "bitters" do not contain sufficient preservative to keep them properly. Try the use of aq. chlorof., B.P. 1885, in place of plain water.

238/70. *Verax*.—Gaseoign's Bal's:—

Prepared crabs' claws ...	...	...	lb. j.
Prepared pearls ...	...	...	3iij.
Prepared red coral ...	...	...	3iij.
Oriental bezoar ...	...	...	3iiss.

Mix and form into balls with mucilage of gum arabic.

239/23. *C. W. & Co.*—Custard-powder:—

Oswego cornflour ...	...	...	lb. j.
Powdered tumeric ...	...	...	3j.
Oil of bitter almonds ...	...	...	℥x.

Mix the oil and turmeric with the flour.

Another formula was given in the *C. & D.*, August 18, page 326.

229/33. *Mercury*.—The tin dust in the silvering-paste formula is powdered tin, which any wholesale druggist can supply.

223/27. *Vinum*.—We have no formula for brewed ginger-beer essence.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

224/36. Makers of Rennie's nursery-ointment.

239/12. Address of makers of Kemp's drain-testers.

97/98. Address of makers or agents for Thompson's sugar of milk.

238/39. Who makes flat-topped oil-cans of a capacity of 1 quart and upwards?

237/64. Makers of nickelled boxes for shaving-soap and dentifrice.

98/99. Agents or makers of hydrozone or pyrozone (Marchant).

1/1. Makers of heavy-spar necklaces, used for reducing "Derbyshire neck."

TO KEEP AWAY THE MICE.—With the advent of the female dispenser the mouse has become more daring, and many are the devices which the timid one puts into practice to scare her arch-enemy. The most successful methods are said to be the use of bromine, chlorinated lime, camphor, and carbolic acid. The last named is the most effective.

Bengal Government Cinchona-plantations.

MAJOR D. PRAIN, M.B., F.R.S.E., Government Quinologist and Superintendent of the Bengal Cinchona-plantations, has submitted his annual report for 1899-1900, the chief point about which is, that there was a surplus of 4,106r. on the year's working, which is deemed satisfactory by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Turning to details, the year under review was remarkable for the rainfall, which is said to have been the heaviest on record since the plantations were started thirty-six years ago. It did considerable damage to the plantations, the loss being estimated at nearly 6,000r. The continuous wet weather was unfavourable to the growth of cinchona, added to which the damage done by *Helopeltis*, which usually causes no serious loss, was also considerable, especially to the younger *Calisayas*. From the Mungpoo division 185,749 trees were removed, and from the Sittong division 10,111, while 223,981 young trees were planted out. The uprooted trees consisted of 112,800 *Calisaya Ledgeriana*, 82,432 *Hybrid*, and 628 *Succirubra*. The area of the extensions for the year amounts to 160.78 acres, of which 159 acres have been devoted to 219,121 plants of *Calisaya Ledgeriana*, and 1.78 acre to *Hybrid*. The area planted exceeds by forty acres the space that in the last report it was hoped could be overtaken. A portion of the Dumsong Forest block has been converted into a cinchona reserve, and during the coming season an effort will be made to plant out 100 acres of it with *Calisaya Ledgeriana*.

The bulk of the bark harvested during the year was again taken from sickly or stunted trees, and amounted to 208,652 lbs., which was practically all obtained from quinine-yielding barks. It was, as usual, made over to the cinchona-factory for manufacture into quinine and febrifuge. In addition to this quantity 153,739 lbs. of bark was purchased at a total cost of 53,000r.

The expenditure on the plantations amounted to 62,804r., against 58,472r. in the previous year, the increase being chiefly due to the sum of 3,046r. spent on the new division at Dumsong. The amount spent on account of the factory rose from 65,467r. to 92,361r., the increase being chiefly due to larger purchases of bark. The raw material worked up in the factory during the year consisted of 117,200 lbs. of mixed *Succirubra* and hybrid barks, from which 4,043 lbs. of cinchona-febrifuge were produced, and 390,138 lbs. of quinine-yielding barks, from which 8,799½ lbs. (140,792 oz.) quinine sulphate were obtained, the percentages being 3.53 and 2.25 respectively. The total outturn of the factory for the year was 12,845 lbs. (205,520 oz.), a decrease of 1,411 lbs. (22,576 oz.), as compared with the previous year.

The issues of quinine amounted to 7,726 lbs. (123,616 oz.), against 8,766 lbs. (140,253 oz.) issued during 1898-99. The decrease is due to the medical depôt at Mian Mir having required 1,165 lbs. less. The quantity sold to Government institutions and offices was also less by 655½ lbs., but this latter decrease is entirely explained by the absence of demands from the provinces of Bombay, the North-West and Central Provinces, Burma, and various Native States which now obtain their supplies from the Madras factory, and which between them took 688 lbs. less than last year. This last decrease has been more than counterbalanced by supplies in excess of those for 1898-99 having been issued to the Calcutta Medical Depôt to the extent of 530 lbs., and to the Jail Department for the manufacture of pice-packets to be distributed in Bengal and Assam to the extent of 300 lbs.

The issues of cinchona-febrifuge were also slightly smaller—2,756½ lbs., against 2,993½ lbs. in 1898-99—which decrease is almost entirely accounted for by a diminished demand on the part of the Government institutions. The general public appreciates the value of cinchona febrifuge as a remedy against malaria as much as ever, for indents for 2,524 lbs. were complied with during the year, against 2,528 lbs. during 1898-99.

BACTERIA are called germs in Germany, parasites in Paris, and microbes in Ireland.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: August 22.

The only feature of interest in the markets this week is the excitement in shellac, which has advanced considerably on speculative buying. Another $\frac{1}{2}$ d. was knocked off the "official" price of quinine last Saturday, and the second-hand market is "sick." At the cinchona auctions on Tuesday there was a decline of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the unit, but the offerings were unimportant. The Amsterdam sales next week (when the record quantity of 37 tons of quinine in bark form are to be offered) will afford a truer index to the state of the market. Essential oils are quiet, with the exception of American peppermint, which continues to rise. Lemon-grass oil is very firm and practically unobtainable on the spot. Saffron is dearer again as anticipated, and strophanthus-seed has been advanced. Opium is very firm, but morphine has not yet moved. Cocaine keeps very firm, and some makers have a difficulty in effecting prompt delivery. Vanilla was lower in auction. Citric acid is easier, while foreign tartaric acid is being severely "cut." Carbolic acid is also easier. The following are the principal alterations of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid, osmic Chamomiles Fenugreek-seed Oil, lemon-grass Oil, palm Oil, peppermint (HGH) Saffron Shellac Seedlac Strophanthus	Ginger (Jam.)	Acid, carbolie Acid, citric	Cinchona Ergot Quinine ("official") Vanilla

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c, have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from August 15 to 21, inclusive:—Bromine, 84 cs.; calumba (@ Bombay), 160; caraway-seed, (@ Rotterdam) 1,564, (@ Amsterdam) 50; cardamoms, 7; castor oil, (Ital.) 40 cs.; chamomiles, 25; cinchona, (@ Amsterdam) 109, (@ Lisbon) 44; cod-liver oil, (@ Aalesund) 120 cks., (@ Bergen) 75; coriander seed, 452; cuttle-fish bone (@ Karachi), 32 cs.; drugs, (@ Antwerp) 10 pkgs., (@ Boulogne) 7, (@ Hamburg) 39; ergot, (@ Barcelona), 4; essential oils, (@ Messina) 98, (@ Hamburg) 37, (@ N.Y.) 26 cs.; galls (@ Antwerp), 44; ginger, (W.C.A.) 111, (@ Hong Kong) 200 cks.; gum arabic, (@ Karachi) 361 pkgs., (W.C.A.) 513 cs., (@ Bombay) 101, (@ Alexandria) 38; gum, unenumerated (@ Karachi), 603 cs.; honey, (@ Jamaica), 49 cs., (@ Sydney) 131 cs.; insect-flowers (@ Trieste), 45; kola (W.C.A.), 23; lime-juice, (@ Halifax) 100 pns., (W.I.) 53 cs.; lime oil (W.I.), 35 cs.; oilbanum (@ Karachi), 110 cs.; opium (@ Marseilles), 45; orris (@ Mogador), 6; quinine (@ Amst.), 36 cs.; roots (@ New York), 32 lbs., (@ Hamburg) 10 lbs.; saffron, 2; scammony, 5 cs.; senna, (@ Marseilles) 27, (@ Calcutta) 20; sulphur (@ Girgenti), 300 tons; turmeric, (@ Karachi) 107 bgs., (@ Bombay) 76; wax, carnauba (@ Pernambuco), 253 bgs.; wax, bees', (@ Hamburg) 14, (@ Gibraltar) 21, (@ W.C.A.) 33, (@ Calcutta) 44.

English Herb-crops.

Messrs. Stafford Allen & Sons (Limited) favour us with the following report on the herb-crops for the present year:—

ACONITE.—This is rather short in supply, the drought in spring

having checked growth in the plants; the root is not yet being taken up.

BELLADONNA.—The yield has been a fair average, the best portions being the younger plantations.

DIGITALIS.—The yield this year has been poor, and good leaf scarce.

ELATERIUM is a good crop, the cucumbers showing profusely.

HEMLOCK has given a fairly good crop, and, being an early herb, has not suffered much from the dry spring.

HENBANE.—For the first time in seven years there has been a fairly good crop of the second year's herb, giving a reasonable return on the outlay; but the continued dry weather since May has already greatly affected the young plant of the first year.

LAVENDER.—The fields have been a picture this season, the yield of flower fairly heavy, and the hot weather has produced a very finely flavoured oil.

LETTUCE (*Lactuca virosa*).—The crop is only an average one.

PEPPERMINT.—The yield of herb will be small, owing to dry weather, but the oil, as usual in hot summers, promises well for flavour and quantity.

PENNYROYAL.—Nothing special to report, being about an average crop.

RHUBARB.—This is showing very well, and is promising, the second year-old plants being very strong.

ROSES.—These have flowered badly this year, and the crop has been short.

SAVIN.—Small supply, and of no special interest.

TARAXACUM.—The supply is only now coming on, and it is too early to report on the crop.

VALERIAN.—Dying down rather early this season; we shall be digging in September.

VIOLETS.—The crop has been short in yield, but the colour exceptionally good.

On the whole, the hot summer seems to have improved the flavour of oil-producing plants, whilst checking the increase of juice in herbs from which extracts are prepared.

Heavy Chemicals.

General business in heavy chemicals at all the main centres continues to be quiet, and there is practically no change to report either as regards tone of the market or values of products. All round home demand is fairly good, but exports are unsatisfactory. Some few inquiries for next year's delivery are in the market, but no business of special moment has yet been done in this direction.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—The various products under this head are unchanged from the position noted in recent reports. Bleaching-powder and caustic soda are not moving very well, and ammonia alkali and soda crystals are about the only articles in good and steady request.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is quiet, and prices have not exactly retained the late firm tendency. Present figures are about as follow:—Beckton, 10*l.* 15*s.*; Beckton terms, 10*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Hull, 10*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*; and Leith, 10*l.* 10*s.* Exports from Leith last week amounted to 631 tons.

ZINC SALTS without change, and moving steadily. Zinc sulphate crystals, 6*l.* 15*s.* to 7*l.* per ton. Zinc-chloride solution, 100° Tw., 6*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* 15*s.* per ton.

GREEN COPPERAS keeps steady, both as regards demand and value. Best Lancashire makes, 42*s.* to 44*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool; and Welsh, 13*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* per ton in bulk, free on rails.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA show no improvement in value, which therefore keeps very low. For English and Scotch deliveries respective prices are 3½*d.* and 2¾*d.* per lb., less 9 per cent. Glasgow. Ruling export-figures are ¼*d.* per lb. lower and net.

LINSEED AND COTTONSEED CAKES are only in moderate request, but prices are very firm, and are likely to continue so. Linseed-cakes, 95 per cent. pure, 8*l.* to 8*l.* 5*s.* per ton. Oil-cakes, 7*l.* to 7*l.* 5*s.* per ton. Cottonseed-cakes, first, 5*l.* to 5*l.* 5*s.*; and seconds, 4*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

MAGNESIUM SALTS in steady request, with values unchanged and firm. Sulphate (Epsoms), 65*s.* to 67*s.* 6*d.* per ton in bags, free on rails. Chloride of magnesium, 57*s.* 6*d.* to 60*s.* per ton. Carbonate of magnesia, 37*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.* per cwt.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, August 21.

CASTOR OIL.—As the holidays are coming to an end greater firmness seems to be exhibited in this and other produce. Good seconds Calcutta has been selling from the quay at 3½*d.* to 3¾*d.* per lb., with little disposition on the part of sellers to meet the views of buyers. First-pressure English and French have been selling at 3½*d.* in quantity. Second pressure is obtainable at 3*d.* per lb.

ACACIA.—A parcel of 20 serons hard Soudan sorts found buyers at 44*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and a smaller parcel was sold at 44*s.* Good soft old-fashioned Soudan is held at prices ranging from 50*s.* to 60*s.* per cwt.

TURPS is steady at 27s. 3d. to 27s. 6d. per cwt.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—At auction 15 bags were offered: 30s. was bid, then 45s., and the parcel was ultimately sold on private terms at a figure above the latter price.

QUILLATA.—There have been further arrivals, and holders might be induced to take 12l. 10s. per ton from the quay in large quantities.

AFRICAN GINGER.—For 110 bags at auction 31s. was bid, but the parcel was withdrawn at 35s. per cwt.; 50 bags of good Cochinchina changed hands at 37s. 6d.; prime is held for 40s. per cwt.

BEESWAX.—There have been further arrivals, and values of good Chilian range from 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l. 10s. per cwt., according to quality.

HONEY.—Chilian continues to arrive, although in smaller lots. Values range from 18s. to 30s. per cwt., as in quality.

LINSEED continues in a very strong position. The market is practically bare, and River Plate is selling at 58s. 6d. to 59s. per quarter.

ARSENIC is steady at 15l. per ton.

IRISH MOSS.—New season's crop continues to arrive. Value ranges from 5l. 5s. to 10l. per ton, according to quality.

American Drug Market.

New York, August 13.

Business is quiet and the general market presents few features of interest.

BEESWAX is in good supply, and the market is easy, with 29c. to 30c. per lb. quoted for ordinary pure.

BUCHU.—Demand is insignificant, and quotations for spot have declined during the week, 28c. to 32c. per lb. being quoted according to quality. A firmer feeling has since sprung up, but business is trifling.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Supplies of old bark are very light, and 5½c. to 7c. is asked according to age. New to arrive is held at 4½c. per lb.

ERGOT.—German is weak owing to reports from abroad. Demand is fair, at 46c. to 48c. Spanish is offered at 50c. to 55c.

GOLDEN-SEAL.—Fall-root is firm, at 60c. per lb., with supplies exceedingly scarce.

PEPPERMINT OIL has sold at \$1.30, and \$1.35 now seems to be the inside figure, with some dealers asking \$1.50. Case oil is in demand for export at \$1.60 per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Recent arrivals of Mexican were all sold prior to delivery, and the market continues firm at 7½c. to 7¾c. per lb.

SENEGA is somewhat more quiet. Quotations are firm, at 36c. to 38c. per lb., and it is doubtful if future quotations will range much below this figure. Advices from the North-west are to the effect that the crop will be very small unless higher prices are paid to the diggers.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, August 20

Our drug-market continues to show a dull tone, and business is only limited.

AGAR-AGAR of best quality is getting scarce at 365m.; good quality can be had at 355m. per 100 kilos.

ANTIMONY is very quiet, at 28½m. per 100 kilos.

CITRIC ACID is dull, at 275m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) seems to have reached the lowest price at present; to-day 417½m. per 100 kilos. is asked by second-hand sellers.

CONDURANGO is tending firmer, at 80m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE has been in more demand, and price is still unchanged.

CUMIN-SEED is steady; new crop is quoted 56m. per 100 kilos.

COCA-LEAVES are quiet; for 76 bales Bolivian, just arrived, 275m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

ERGOT is dull, at 360m. to 340m. per 100 kilos.

GUINEA-GRAINS are more freely offered, at 110m. per 100 kilos.

KOLA.—Parcels just arrived are held for 45m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is firmer, spot being held at 435m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is steady, at 26m. per kilo.

IPÉCACUANA is unchanged, 24m. for Rio, and 12½m. per kilo. for Cartagena.

QUININE is quiet; factories now accept 43m. per kilo.

SENEGA is tending firmer, and 365m. per 100 kilos. is asked to-day.

FENUGREEK is getting scarce on spot, and holders now ask 14½m. per 100 kilos.

STAR-ANISE is dull, and has been sold at 115m. per 100 kilos.

JAPANESE WAX is very firm, at 66m. per 100 kilos.

OILS.—Linseed is very firm, cotton-seed is advancing, and rape is steady. Cod-liver is firm, with non-congealing oil at 65m. per barrel. Star-anise is steady, at 11½m. per kilo., and peppermint oil very firm, with HGH at 6.90m. to 7m. per lb., and Japanese very firm at 7½m. per kilo.

Japanese Drug Market.

Yokohama, July 27.

Our drug-trade is now showing a better tone, although speculative transactions are absent. The largest firm of dealers in alcohol in Japan has failed, with liabilities amounting, it is said, to 850,000 yen; and one of wholesale druggists is also involved in the disaster.

In export articles, agar-agar is firmly held at 105 yen for best quality, and for medium 100 yen, while for inferior 95 yen is quoted, with a light supply. Menthol is weak, this being chiefly due to lack of demand from Europe; only small transactions are being made at from 5.75 yen to 5.60 yen per catty, according to quantity; but holders are not anxious sellers, in anticipation of a poor crop this season. Oil of peppermint is steady at 1.80 yen per catty. Refined camphor remains unchanged with a small business. Iodine and iodides are cheap, owing to low prices for raw materials and abundant supplies in the hands of weak holders. Manufacturers are also forcing their goods on the market, and the present quotation for crude iodine (95-per-cent.) is 3.05 yen, potassium iodide 3.50 yen to 3.35 yen, according to quantity, iodoform 5.50 yen per lb. During this month the export of crude iodine to Europe was only 1,500 lbs., and some small exportations of potassium iodide were made to Asiatic ports. There may be further reductions in the near future. The syndicate agent has advanced his quotation for potassium iodide to 3.80 yen, thus ignoring the present condition of Japanese iodine. Birdlime is quoted 40 sen to 45 sen per lb.

In import-articles borax crystals and boric acid are weak, owing to the heavy supply. Carbolic acid is selling well at unchanged price (say, 44 sen per lb., in 112-lb. drums); stock is rather heavy. Tartaric acid is in brisk demand, and price has been slightly advanced; at present 65 sen per lb. for wholesale quantity is quoted, with a very light stock. Sugar of milk is going down, and 20 yen per cwt. will buy. Bismuth subnitrate has advanced 15 sen per lb., the present price being 2.85 yen. Some holders are very firm at 3 yen, but to import prices are lower. Demand is good, and stocks are decreasing. Condurango is cheap and dull of sale, at 28 sen per lb. Ergot is scarce and firmly held, at 1.35 yen to 1.45 yen per lb. Senega is dear, owing to scarcity, and holders ask 1.25 yen per lb. Cream of tartar is very dear; stock is light, and the quotation is 48 sen per lb. for P.J. quality. Quinine is dear, but present price is still cheaper than that ruling in Europe. Quotations for sulphate are 65 sen to 68 sen per oz. A couple of months ago 10,000 oz. of sulphate and 5,000 oz. of muriate of quinine were imported from Java, and this product is steadily going ahead on this market, owing to regular importations.

In heavy chemicals alkali is scarce, and is quoted 4.70 yen to 4.80 yen per picul for "Crescent," but American in bags can be had at 4.25 yen per picul. Caustic soda is cheap, at 7 yen to 7.10 yen per picul. Chlorate of potash has declined to 16.50 yen per cwt. to arrive, but spot has changed hands at 17 yen to 17.25 yen per cwt. Cyanide of potassium (33-per-cent.) is 30 sen, and yellow prussiate of potash is quoted 28 sen per lb.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Easier. Ice-crystals, 39° to 40° C., are quoted 7½d., and 34° to 35° C. 7½d. per lb.; crude, 60-per-cent., 1s. 11d.; 75-per-cent., 2s. 2d. per gal.; and cresylic, 95-per-cent., 10d. to 1s.

ACID, CITRIC.—Very weak, with sellers of English crystals at 1s. 2½d., and foreign at a shade under.

ACID, OSMIC, has been advanced from 4s. to 5s. 10d. per gramme, including tubes.

ACID, TARTARIC, is also very weak, and foreign is being severely cut; 11½d. per lb. is quoted for powder or crystals, but for large quantities less would probably buy. English is quoted 1s. 0¾d.

ALOES.—Fine bright hard Cape is unobtainable, but good seconds can be had at from 25s. to 27s. per cwt.

ARROWROOT.—Very dull. At auction on Wednesday all the parcels of St. Vincents offered were bought in, fine at 4d., good at 2½d., and fair at 1¾d. per lb.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Good Maranham keeps very firm at from 2s. 3½d. to 2s. 4d. per lb., spot. In Liverpool sales have been made at slightly under this figure.

CAMPHOR.—The exports from Hiogo and Osaka during 1900 amounted to 4,262,785 lbs. (305,499c.), against 3,597,920 lbs. (178,280c.) in 1899.

CASCARA SAGRADA is about 1s. 6d. higher in the United States, new bark for direct sailer shipment being quoted 22s. 6d., c.i.f.

CHAMOMILES.—Belgian of second pickings are offered at 78s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms. On the spot 80s. to 87s. 6d. is quoted, according to quality.

CINCHONA.—Although small supplies were catalogued for auction on Tuesday, only a languid interest was shown in them, owing to the heavy auctions at Amsterdam next week. Importers, however, were anxious to meet the market, and the average unit declined to 1½d., against 1¼d. paid at the last London auctions.

The following table shows the quantity of bark offered and sold:—

	Packages offered,	Packages sold,
South American cinchona ...	940	910
East Indian cinchona ...	336	288
Java cinchona ...	236	44
Ceylon cinchona ...	228	155
	1,740	1,397

The following were the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Agents for the American factories...	59,332
Agents for the Brunswick factory...	28,933
Messrs. Howards & Sons ...	26,770
Agents for the Imperial factory ...	26,179
Agents for the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories ...	9,270
Agents for the Paris factory ...	9,046
Agents for the Frankfurt and Stuttgart factories	8,660
Druggists, &c. ...	29,603
Total quantity sold ...	197,793
Bought in or withdrawn ...	74,584
Total quantity offered ...	272,377

The prices paid were as follows:—

SOUTH AMERICAN.—About 900 bales Bolivian cultivated Calisaya quill offered and sold at from 6½d. to 10½d., and broken quill at from 7½d. to 8½d.; 7 bales of flat cultivated Calisaya sold at 1s. 3½d. for sound.

JAVA.—Ledgeriana chips, 6d. per lb.

CEYLON.—Ledgeriana original stem-chips, 5½d.; branch, 2½d.; hybrid original stem chips and shavings, 3½d. to 4½d. Red, original stem, 3½d. per lb.

EAST INDIAN.—Ledgeriana stem chips, 2d. to 5½d.; branch, 4½d.; and root, 3d. to 7d. Succirubra, original stems, 1½d. to 3½d.; branch, 2d.; and root, 2½d. to 3½d. Officialis, stem chips and shavings, 2½d. to 5½d.; branch, 3½d. to 5½d.; renewed chips, 3½d. to 9½d.; and root, 8½d. per lb.

To the Amsterdam auctions to be held on August 29, 1,629 bales and 46 cases Java bark, totalling 139,864 kilos., have been added, so that the total amount to be offered is now 7,740 hales 293 cases, weighing 707,644 kilos. The manufacturing bark contains an average of 5.68 per cent. quinine sulphate, against 5.91 per cent. for the July auction, and an average of 5.26 per cent. for the ten auctions held in 1900. The bark contains 37,192 kilos. (1,300,000 oz.) of quinine sulphate. The stock in first-hands at Amsterdam on August 14 consisted of 2,173 packages Government and 10,170 packages private bark, including the quantity to be offered at auction.

COCAINE.—A good business has been in progress lately, and makers are in some instances unable to give prompt delivery.

The exports of crude cocaine from Peru during 1900 amounted to 16,479 lbs., valued at \$563,625. Of this quantity the United States received 1,016 lbs. direct.

COCOA-BUTTER.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on September 3 will consist of 60 tons Van Houten's, 1 ton Helm, 4 tons De Jong, and 5 tons Mignon brand.

CUBEBS.—Fair berries are obtainable at 47s. 6d. per cwt., which is easier.

ERGOT.—For Spanish ergot 1s. 6d. per lb. is said to have been accepted for a parcel on the spot; to arrive, 1s. 6½d., c.i.f., is quoted for Spanish, of which there appears to have been a good crop this year. Russian, on the other hand, is said to have yielded a small crop only, and is scarce; 1s. 6d., c.i.f., has been refused.

GENTIAN is selling in small wholesale quantities at 17s., spot.

GOLDEN SEAL.—From New York a strong market is reported at 2s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., for autumn-dug, and 1s. 10d. for spring-dug root.

GUM ARABIC.—For so-called Persian insoluble gum there has been a good inquiry for "unworked" sorts at from 14s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt.

GUM TRAGACANTH.—In the lower grades considerable business has been done this week at somewhat better prices in some instances. Limits for these grades, which were formerly pressed for sale, have now been generally advanced, so that a lessened demand is expected.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—A Trieste report, dated August 16, states that a further considerable rise has set in during the past month, and large parcels have been taken out of the market. A large part of the plantations have been destroyed by the severe frosts during the last winter, and as it takes the new plants at least two years for giving an average yield, it is therefore almost certain that high prices will prevail throughout this season and during the next. The arrivals in Trieste during July amounted to 1,704 cwt., and the sales to 1,066 cwt., so that there is only a slight increase in the stock, although the bulk of the new crop usually arrives during the month of July. Closed flowers are quoted 120s. to 136s. 6d., half-closed 87s. to 112s. 6d., and open flowers 82s. 6d. to 91s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. The stock in Trieste on June 1 (beginning of the new season) amounted to 2,522 cwt., against 2,916 cwt. last year.

IPECACUANHA.—Business has been done in Cartagena root at 5s. per lb.

JALAP.—Owing to careless cultivation and improper collecting, the jalap-crop in Mexico is very poor, says the *New York Commercial*. Recent tests indicate but an average of 8.3 per cent. of resin percentage present, which is below the official requirements for a standardised tincture.

LIME-JUICE is flat. Raw West Indian of tip-top quality can be had at 1s. 6d., good at 1s. 4d., and common 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per gallon.

MENTHOL shows no change, 12s. 3d. having been paid for Kobayashi crystals on the spot; for arrival this brand is not offered, but 11s., c.i.f., will buy Nippon.

OIL, CASTOR.—The market is quiet but steady, Hull make for prompt delivery being quoted 29½. per ton for firsts and 28½. for seconds, ex wharf London. For Belgian 30½. has been paid for first-pressings spot, and September-December delivery is quoted 27½. to 27½. 10s., fo.h., Antwerp for seconds.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—For August-October shipment ton lots have sold at 8½d. per lb., c.i.f., in drums.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The Bergen market is very quiet and without alteration. The exports from that port amount to 6,797½ barrels, against 5,466 barrels at the same time last year. The London quotation of 64s. appears to be out of proportion to that of Bergen, where finest non-congealing oil has practically remained unaltered at 63s. to 64s., fo.h., and at the inside figure there has been and still is a small demand. The cheaper offers on the London market appear to arise from the depression in the northern cities of Norway.

OIL, LAVENDER.—Very flat, in view of the anticipated large crop of English this year; 27s. 6d. per lb. net will now buy the finest quality.

OIL, LEMONGRASS.—For the small supplies obtainable on the spot 6d. per oz. is wanted, and to arrive there are sellers at 4½d. to 4½d.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—There has been a good inquiry for American HGH, and for a spot parcel 7s. 9d. per lb. has been paid, which is an advance of 3d. As already noted English distillers of peppermint have raised their prices, and for genuine English oil 24s. is wanted, which is an advance of 3s. to 4s. on the lowest point touched.

OPIUM.—Very firm. Business has been done in Persian opium up to 11s. 6d. per lb. spot, and some holders are inclined to be firmer, asking 12s. For forward delivery there are no sellers, and the market is apparently closed for the time being. Good Smyrna druggists' (10 per cent. to 11 per

cent.) has been sold at 9s. per lb. Soft shipping is now very scarce on this market, 15s. being asked for it.

SMYRNA, August 9.—Owing to a slight decline on our market this week some 45 cases have changed hands as follows:—2 cases new Boghaditz selected at 9s. 9d. per lb., f.o.b.; 2 cases old Karahissar selected at 9s. 5d. per lb., f.o.b.; 19 cases old Karahissar talequale at 8s. 10d. per lb., f.o.b.; 3 cases old current talequale at 8s. 6d. per lb., f.o.b.; 20 cases new current talequale at 8s. 4d. per lb., f.o.b. Our market, however, is firm, as most of the holders refuse to sell at above prices, and the next buyers may have to pay higher to secure stuff, unless our weak and needy dealers are obliged again to sell at a sacrifice. The arrivals to date are 1,374 cases, against 2,235 cases.

OTTO OF ROSE.—Advices received from Bulgaria report that it is difficult to come to terms with the peasants, their idea of values being considerably above those of buyers. So far, the "fixing" of prices does not appear to have taken place.

QUICKSILVER.—The importer is very firm at 9l. per bottle, there being no offers from second hands. The importations into London for the eight months of each season to July 31 have been as follows:—

	1901		1901
	Bottles		Bottles
Government Spanish ...	41,887	...	888
Other Spanish ...	81	...	29
Italian ...	3,545	...	3,320
	48,113	...	4,237

According to the Board of Trade returns the imports for the seven months ended July 31 have been—

	1901	1900	1899
Lbs. ...	2,485,004	330,614	3,733,704
£ ...	303,117	38,388	400,304

QUININE.—On Saturday last the "official" price of German sulphate was reduced a further $\frac{1}{2}$ d., now 1s. 4d. per oz. in bulk. Howards' price was also reduced 1d., and they now quote 1s. 5d. for bulk, and 1s. 7d. for not less than 1,000 oz. in vials. Quinine salts have also been reduced. The relapse which we noted last week in second hands has continued and with a very dull market, the spot price has dropped by fractions to 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., with a small business thereat. October delivery has sold at from 1s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. down to 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., and December at 1s. 2d., but there were sellers to-day at 1s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in this position. The market closes quiet.

ROSE-PETALS.—One holder of *French* has advanced his quotation to 2s. 4d., spot, which is dearer. *Dutch* are quoted 2s. 9d. to 3s. 3d.

SAFFRON is quite 6d. per lb. dearer again, importers quoting from 23s. to 30s. per lb. net for finest Valencia. Very little is now offered from Spain, and it is said the French houses cannot offer. Stocks on this side are also small, and second hands offer sparingly, anticipating a further advance.

SARSAPARILLA.—For good fibrous grey Jamaica 1s. 7d. per lb. is asked in second hands, and good Lima-Jamaica 1s. 4d. Mexican is quoted 4d., c.i.f.

SEEDS.—Russian *Anise* quiet but steady at 18s. per cwt. *Coriander* slow at 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco; *Cumin* sells in small lots at 24s. per cwt. for fair Morocco; nothing doing in Malta seed. *Canary*, slow at 30s. to 31s. 6d. per quarter for Turkish and Barbary. The new crop of Turkish is estimated at 125,000 bags, which is above the average; it is being offered at 28s. to 28s. 6d., c.i.f. terms. Fine qualities of Morocco and Spanish promise to be scarce again this year, and prices are consequently firm. *Linseed* very firm, but little doing in fine qualities at present. *Pennu-greek* is dearer, the crop in Morocco having turned out small; 6s. 6d. per cwt. has been paid, and holders are now asking 7s. to 7s. 6d. *Caranays* are offering at 18s. 6d. to 20s. per cwt., f.o.b. Holland, for ordinary to good.

SENEGA.—Advices received from New York under date of August 12 report that receipts are light from the primary markets. The digging-season will soon close, and a short total crop is expected to result. The London market is unaltered, at 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., c.i.f. On the spot 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. is quoted, but it may be possible to buy a little at less from those who contracted at 1s. 4d. and upwards.

SHELLAC.—The Calcutta shipments for the first half of the month having been practically "nil" (only 400 cwt. to the world), the excitement previously noted has continued throughout the week, and a considerable speculative business has been done at higher prices all round. Of spot parcels there are few sellers, fair second orange being quoted 76s. to 78s. AC Garnet has sold at 75s., and good Button at 83s. For arrival quotations are nominal, as importers are not quoting. In "futures" a good business has been done. The Calcutta price of TN has advanced from 34r. to 42r. since last week.

SPICES.—There is only a small trade passing, and quotations are unaltered. At auction on Wednesday Cochin *Ginger* was bought in at 65s. per cwt. for medium and small native-cut, at 50s. for small cut, and at 38s. for Calicut brown rough, a few bags of slightly mouldy selling at 33s. 6d. per cwt. Jamaica mostly sold, with fair competition, at full prices to 1s. per cwt. dearer; common to ordinary at 37s. to 42s., middling to fair, 42s. 6d. to 45s.; and dull bold at 45s. to 46s. per cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* are steady at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. on the spot, and at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for future delivery. *Black Pepper* remains quiet, with trade orders for Singapore at 6d. per lb.; but there is very little doing for speculation, only a few transactions being reported at 6d. to 6 $\frac{1}{16}$ d. per lb. for near and distant shipment. Singapore white is quoted 9d. per lb., and Penang 8 $\frac{3}{16}$ d. per lb. The quarterly auction of *Cinnamon* will take place on Monday next.

STROPHANTHUS.—Dearer. Good green Kombé seed has been advanced to 4s. per lb. Brown is not to be had.

VANILLA.—Although only a small supply offered at auction the demand was poor, and only part sold, at about 1s. decline, as follows:—Seychelles: 7 to 8 inches, 15s. to 18s.; 3 to 7 inches, 11s. to 15s. 6d.; and common splits, 3s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb. Mauritius: good, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, 20s.; 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 inches, 18s. 6d. to 19s.; 6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, 15s. to 17s. 6d.; and common splits, 10s. to 15s. 6d. Bourbon: fair, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 inches, 15s. to 15s. 6d. The export of vanilla from Mexico decreased considerably both in quantity and value during 1900, as the frosts and rains in the early part of the year and the want of the latter at the proper season spoilt the plants, and the crop was subsequently lost. The quantity exported was 60,921 lbs., as against 133,676 lbs. in 1899, and the values were respectively 62,565l. and 181,547l. Vanilla is now receiving the attention of many of the American agricultural companies whose properties are in the State of Vera Cruz, and it is quite probable that the exports during 1901 will, under normal conditions, be greater than in 1900.

WAX, JAPANESE.—For good pale squares 33s. per cwt. has been paid this week, but to arrive the high figure of 32s. 9d., c.i.f., is quoted.

Custom-house Regulations in Chili.

A copy has been received at the Board of Trade through the Foreign Office, of a despatch from our Consul-General for Chili relative to the rules in force in Chilean Custom-houses, and commenting on the carelessness of British exporters as regards compliance with the prescribed regulations. Under the regulations now in force European firms exporting goods to Chili are required to have the exact weight of each package clearly stencilled thereon (writing or other marking is not accepted), and only 10 per cent. variation either way is allowed on the arrival of the package in Chili. There are also strict rules relative to the mixing in the same package of goods assessed for duty at different tariff-valuation or subject to different tariff rates of duty. Sir Berry Cusack-Smith points out that there is no reason whatever why goods leaving England should not be properly weighed, the exact weight correctly converted into kilos, and grammes, and carefully stencilled on the package as required. If this is done no trouble occurs in passing the goods through the Custom-houses. If, however, the weight given is incorrect, or the contents of the parcel do not tally with the declaration which the importer must make before the package is claimed by him, the case, if at all serious, is treated as one of fraud, and a legal action is brought against the importer.

PERFUMERIES are an important article of commerce in the Soudan. They are principally imported by a Bulgarian house from German firms in Leipzig. One caravan recently contained \$4,000 worth of such perfumeries, says the American Consul at Frankfurt.